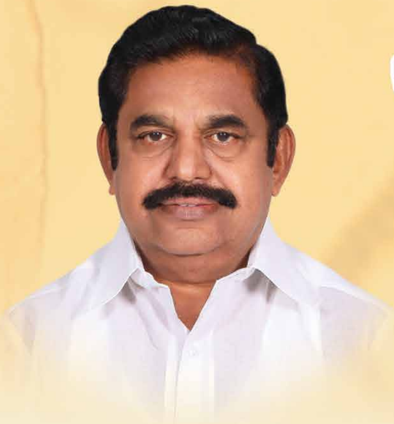
November 2018
Rs. 20

Vol.: 50 Issue : 5

Tamilarasu

Publication of Information & Public Relations Department



'Reap the benefits by saving for a rainy day'

Message of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami** on the occasion of World Thrift Day - 29.10.2018 (*English Translation*).

World Thrift Day is observed on October 30 every year to emphasize the importance of thrift and savings in the life of the people.

In Thirukkural, Thiruvalluvar stresses the need for living within one's means.

"Alavarindhu Vaazhaadhaan Vaazhkai Ulapola IllaagiThondrak Kedum"

Thrift and savings are closely linked with each other. Only if you live prudently, you can meet the demands of the present as well as the future. So parents should inculcate the habit of savings among children right from the start.

People in Tamil Nadu, who earn money through their hard work, should invest in small savings schemes jointly operated by Small Savings Department of the Tamil Nadu Government and the Post Offices. These schemes not only give higher rate of interest but are also completely safe. By investing in Post Office small savings schemes, they guaranteed for the invested money and security for future need.

I appeal to people on this World Thrift Day, to invest money in the small savings schemes of Post Offices and to reap the benefits.

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Publication of Information &
Public Relations Department
Thiruvalluvar Year - 2049

November 2018

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"Academic education and sports activities are two eyes of the youth. Even as education enriches the mind, sports nurtures and strengthens the body as well as fortifying the resolve and developing the intellect. Realising this, students should pay attention to studies as well as to sports."

Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami
- Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

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Designed & Printed at :
Tamilarasu Press
Rajiv Gandhi Salai, Kanagam, Taramani,
Chennai - 600 113.
Tel : 044-2254 2221 / 2254 2224
E-mail : tamilarasujournal@gmail.com
Website : www.tndipr.gov.in

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First Wrapper

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami** met the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India **Shri Narendra Modi** at the Prime Minister's Office in New Delhi on 08.10.2018 and presented a Memorandum of demands on various developmental projects for the State and discussed them with him.

Hon'ble Chief Minister presents memorandum to Hon'ble Prime Minister

Twenty aims, including Thoppur AIIMS, Bharat Ratna for Anna, Amma

Memorandum presented to **Shri Narendra Modi,** Hon'ble Prime Minister of India by **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami,** Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on 08.10.2018.

1. Conferment of "BHARAT RATNA" on Thiru. C.N. Annadurai, late Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

Thiru. C.N. Annadurai was known as Perarignar Anna for his outstanding intellectual capacity. He was a great social reformer, writer, orator, litterateur and a great Dravidian leader. His literary and political works, both in Tamil and English, bear the stamp of his genius and rank among the best in these genres.

He was the ideological fountainhead of major Dravidian Parties. He stood for a politics that foregrounded social equality, self-respect and linguistic pride. He condemned the backwardness and superstitious practices of the

society and advocated science and education for eradicating them. He was for preserving the identity and antiquity of Tamil language and its culture. He fought for the upliftment of downtrodden and women's rights. He was an orator par excellence in Tamil, no less in English as well. He mesmerized the masses through his oratorical skills. He created a knowledge revolution among the poor and simple, by his sparkling speech. *"Kadamai, Kanniyam, Kattupadu"* – (Duty, Decorum, Discipline) - the politico philosophical magical words coined by him.

Perarignar Annadurai had the distinction of converting the Dravidian ideology into a political formation and was instrumental in a regional party forming a Government for the first time in India. He served as the Chief Minister of Madras from 1967 till 1969. During his tenure as Chief Minister, "the State of Madras" was renamed as "Tamil Nadu".

He legalised self-respect marriages and introduced two language policy and "A rupee for a measure of rice scheme" in the Public Distribution System. He was the pioneer who championed the cause for State Autonomy.

Perarignar Annadurai was one of the Country's finest Parliamentarians and his speeches in the Parliament were well received and acclaimed by other Parliamentarians, cutting across party lines. Perarignar Annadurai is still remembered with fondness by a large number of people of Tamil Nadu, even now, 49 years after his demise. Several institutions and organisations in Tamil Nadu have been named after him.

Under his stewardship, people believed that the State was entering a new epoch. Abolition of levy on dry lands, assignment of wastelands to the landless poor, free education for students up to pre-university class, implementation of prohibition policy, development of Tamil were among some of the far reaching initiatives undertaken by him.

The advent of the political party headed by Perarignar Annadurai as a party in power in the State of Tamil Nadu marks a watershed. He was a titan among the politicians living in his era and was well respected even by his worst critics. He was mild-mannered, accommodative, upright and fought tirelessly for improving the socio-economic conditions of the people.

In view of his contributions to Tamil Nadu, in particular and India as a whole, the Tamil Nadu Cabinet unanimously resolved on 09.09.2018 that this statesman needs to be honoured befittingly with the highest civilian award, the Bharat Ratna and accordingly recommended to the Government of India to award **"Bharat Ratna"** to the late Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Perarignar Annadurai posthumously.

I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to kindly confer the "Bharat Ratna" on late Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. C.N. Annadurai, posthumously.

2. Conferment of "BHARAT RATNA" on Selvi J Jayalalithaa, late Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

The late Hon'ble Chief Minister Selvi J Jayalalithaa is very fondly remembered by the people of Tamil Nadu as Puratchi Thalaivi

Amma. The highest civilian honour – Bharat Ratna would be the most fitting way to recognize the extraordinary public service, phenomenal achievements and the remarkable life of one of the most influential political leaders of independent India. Our revered leader, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma overcame many obstacles in her life to reach the pinnacle of political achievement – of capturing the hearts, minds and imagination of the people of Tamil Nadu. She did so through formulating people-friendly and growth oriented policies founded on empathy and compassion, ensuring their effective implementation through administrative acumen and sound fiscal management and carrying out her political and administrative tasks by the dint of determination, dedication, perseverance and unstinted hard work. Vast sections of the Tamil population looked up to her as their leader, in whom they had implicit trust and in fact they deified her. Her initiatives won universal acclaim and were widely admired not only by other States in the Country, but also by other Countries.

The late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, excelled in academics and extra-curricular activities from her early days as a student. Through her days as an accomplished and popular film actor, apart from being a consummate professional, she used every free moment of her time to read extensively and gain knowledge. In her early days in politics, she distinguished herself as an effective Member of Parliament in the Rajya Sabha, speaking on important issues including State Autonomy and Internal Security, which won acclaim from the then Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi.

The late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma overcame political vicissitudes and took over the mantle of the leadership of the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam. She led the AIADMK Party to a memorable electoral victory in 1991 and repeated the feat in 2001, 2011 and 2016, assuming office as the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, a record six times for a total period of 15 years. In between, she also led her party to strong performances in the elections to the Lok Sabha, in 1998, 1999, 2009 and most memorably in 2014. What is particularly remarkable is the manner in which in the last 3 elections – in 2011, 2014 (Lok Sabha) and 2016, she strongly consolidated the popular mandate of the AIADMK party in the State. Today, the AIADMK has 50 Members of Parliament in the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha and is the third largest political formation in the country. This is entirely due to the massive public support built up by our revered leader, the late Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, through sustained performance and political acumen. She was unarguably the most charismatic, dynamic and determined political leader that India has ever seen. She relentlessly challenged the male dominated politics of Tamil Nadu that worked to block her at every step of the way. She reached the top on her own, with no political background and became Chief Minister, not once, but six times.

The late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma was uncompromising in her insistence on the perfect maintenance of law and order in the State. The Police force has been adequately funded and provisioned and its

morale maintained at a very high level as the late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, gave the Police Force a free hand to ensure that law and order is well maintained. Tamil Nadu has remained a haven of peace and tranquillity due to the efforts of Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. Firm action was taken against extremist elements and terrorists. The activities of the forest brigand Veerappan were curtailed and the threat was finally neutralized by the Tamil Nadu Police.

The late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma pioneered All Women Police Stations and Women Commando Force in the State and ensured adequate recruitment of women in the State Police and thereby gave a very high sense of safety for women and the vulnerable. The late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma pioneered the path breaking Cradle Baby Scheme and the Girl Child Protection Scheme in the State which reversed the declining female sex ratio. The Cradle Baby Scheme was appreciated by Saint Mother Teresa as a great gift to children in Tamil Nadu and lauded the late Hon'ble Chief Minister's welfare projects for girls, destitute women and the aged. The late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's schemes to promote enhanced work participation by women included the distribution of essential equipment like mixies, grinders and fans which eased the domestic drudgery of women, the increase in the maternity leave eligibility for women to 9 months, the enhanced financial benefits under the Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy Maternity Benefit Scheme. Enhanced financial assistance under the Marriage Assistance Schemes and provision of 8 gram gold coin, incentivized female education by postponing the age of marriage. Empowerment of women through Self Help Groups and enhancement of livelihood through provision of economic assets to women including milch animals, sheep and goats was ensured. All these innovative measures remarkably enhanced the status of women in Tamil Nadu and proved to be model schemes for other States in the country.

Our revered leader, the late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma transcended caste, creed and religion in her concern to ensure social justice and to protect the interest of minorities, weaker sections and the vulnerable. Our revered leader the late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma was instrumental in securing the constitutional protection for Tamil Nadu's long standing policy of 69% reservation for Backward, Most Backward Classes and Scheduled Castes and Tribes. The interests of the minorities were consistently protected and the State was kept free of communal strife.

When she assumed office as Chief Minister in 1991, Tamil Nadu's per capita income was still below the National average. Today it is nearly 75 per cent above the National average. Tamil Nadu's economy under the leadership of the late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma registered the strongest consistent growth and Tamil Nadu has become the second largest State economy in India.

It is not only strong economic growth in Tamil Nadu that has been a significant achievement, but also under the leadership

of the late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, Tamil Nadu is one State that has sustained its level of social sector expenditure. late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma had in her first term in office itself formulated a "Social Safety Net" for which protected allocations were made in the Budget year after year in the areas of Health, Education, Nutrition, Welfare of Women and Children, Welfare of the Differently Abled, Welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes and Social Security. The allocations have consistently grown through her successive tenures. The scheme to distribute free bicycles to all students in Government and Aided Higher Secondary Schools ensured greater mobility, while the scheme to distribute laptops bridged the digital divide and a new generation was prepared for the challenge of modern Information Technology. The Amma Unavagams (Canteens) which supply affordable and hygienic cooked food to the poor with dignity, is an initiative which has been internationally acclaimed and is now sought to be replicated elsewhere in the country. Such efforts have paid rich dividends in terms of human development achievements in the State.

Alongside the human development achievements recorded in the State, consistent investments in infrastructure were also championed by the late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. This sustained performance has won appreciation from development economists across the world and is now an established model of development. The Tamil Nadu Vision 2023 reflected the far sighted perspective of the late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma to set Tamil Nadu on a high growth path trajectory by ensuring sustained investments in the infrastructure, education, health and other related sectors. The late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's singular efforts ensured that the State which had a huge power deficit in 2011 when she assumed office, became a power surplus State by 2016. Major investments were also made in the Roads, Urban Development, Transport and related sectors.

Desalination, as a permanent solution for the perennial drinking water shortage in various parts of Tamil Nadu, was first initiated by the late Hon'ble Chief Minister. As early as 2001, late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma made Rain Water Harvesting was mandatory in all Government and residential buildings which became an example for many States to follow. The high quality of human resources and of infrastructure and the very well maintained law and order situation have made Tamil Nadu a very attractive investment destination. The State continues to maintain its position with the largest number of factories and factory employees in the country. Even the President of the World Bank expressed his appreciation to the late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma for the fact that usually Governments either follow a welfarist agenda or a business friendly agenda, but Tamil Nadu was a rare exception where the State continued to be business friendly even as it ensured that adequate attention and funding was provided for the welfare of the people. He had further stated that, "Tamil Nadu's record in implementing projects

was really fantastic." The efforts of the late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma to encourage major automobile manufacturers like Ford and Hyundai to invest in Tamil Nadu was instrumental in the State becoming home to many large automobile manufacturers and Chennai has come to be known as the Detroit of India. In addition, investment was encouraged in a range of sectors and Tamil Nadu has one of the most diversified industrial bases in the country. When the late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma assumed office as Chief Minister in 2011, the State was crippled with severe power shortage. The late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma ensured that utmost priority was given to the power sector by enabling power projects and also by stepping up solar energy production which paved the path to make Tamil Nadu a power surplus State.

The late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma played a very big role in the development of the field of sports in the State over the last two and half decades. High cash incentives to the sportspersons and their coaches were instituted to encourage them. Late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma also started reward schemes for promoting the not so popular disciplines like kabaddi, weightlifting, fencing, etc., which gave a boost for the sportsmen of Tamil Nadu.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi's foresight in implementing rain water harvesting to enrich the water table and to check global warming shows that she was a champion of environmental causes. Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma was a multifaceted leader who demonstrated exceptional leadership qualities.

Coupled with performance in all spheres of governance and administration, the late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma made a strong and persuasive case for ensuring that the autonomy of States was respected and State Governments were given the necessary legislative, administrative and fiscal space to function effectively to fulfill the aspirations of the people of the State. The late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma steadfastly and through legal avenues ensured that the rights of the State were protected – be it the Cauvery issue, Periyar issue or the rights of the Indian fishermen from Tamil Nadu fishing in their traditional fishing waters of the Palk Bay.

The administrative responses to disasters that struck the State, in particular the Indian Ocean Tsunami in 2005 received International acclaim. After the unprecedented floods in Chennai in December, 2015, Tamil Nadu disbursed flood relief to 14 lakh families by direct transfer to their bank accounts at one shot.

Above all, the late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma represented the hopes and aspirations of millions of people of Tamil Nadu and Tamil people wherever they resided across the globe. The late Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma was an inspirational figure. Her commanding leadership, brave decision making capacity, shrewd understanding of politics and determination to fight for regional rights will

be remembered forever. She gave voice to the voiceless and power to the powerless. She was responsible for the remarkable socio-economic transformation of Tamil Nadu. She brought peace, tranquility, discipline in all spheres of society and administration and enviable prosperity to Tamil Nadu. Her appeal extends beyond Tamil Nadu and won her admirers and followers across the country. Such an inspirational figure who touched the lives of millions and whose life story will inspire millions more to strive for the greater public good through social and public service, richly deserves the Nation's highest civilian honour. It would be a fitting tribute to a great leader, an able administrator, an inspiring icon who overcame many obstacles and vicissitudes in public life to devote her life for the benefit of millions of people.

The Tamil Nadu Cabinet resolved on 09.09.2018 to reiterate to the Government of India, its original decision taken in the Cabinet meeting held on 10.12.2016 recommending the award of "Bharat Ratna" to the late Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Selvi J Jayalalithaa, posthumously.

The late Hon'ble Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma was astute, diplomatic and independent as a political leader. She had endeared herself to the people of Tamil Nadu by her words and deeds and her legacy lives on. People, particularly women adore her as their "AMMA". She was nationalistic in her outlook and progressive in her thinking. She tirelessly strove for the betterment of Tamil Nadu and Tamils. She rightly deserves the highest civilian award of our country, the "Bharat Ratna".

I reiterate our request to confer the Bharat Ratna posthumously on Selvi J Jayalalithaa, late Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and request you to take immediate steps for the same.

3. Renaming Central Railway Station as "Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G. Ramachandran Central Railway Station"

The Tamil Nadu Cabinet has unanimously resolved and recommended to rename Chennai Central Railway Station after **"Puratchi Thalaivar Dr.M.G.Ramachandran"** in commemoration of his birth centenary. The Hon'ble former Chief Minister Dr. M.G. Ramachandran, who is affectionately known as "Puratchi Thalaivar" (Revolutionary Leader), was a self-taught genius, an iconic film personality, who became Tamil Nadu's most popular mass leader.

The birth centenary of Puratchi Thalaivar Dr.M.G. Ramachandran, Hon'ble former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu which fell in 2017, is being celebrated by the Government of Tamil Nadu in a glorious and befitting manner.

Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G. Ramachandran was one of the most illustrious, charismatic and popular Chief Ministers of the State, who rode like a colossus during the turbulent transitional socio-political period of the State for more than three decades as an actor supreme and as a political leader invincible, till his death in 1987.

Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G. Ramachandran is remembered nationally and internationally for having launched several innovative welfare programmes which have become model to

be emulated throughout the country. He was socially conscious and politically committed and his yardstick for governance was, whether a welfare scheme would ultimately benefit the poor. “The Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G.R. Nutritious Meal Programme” implemented in all the Schools in Tamil Nadu, is a manifestation of his commitment for the welfare of the weaker sections of the society. The scheme has been commended by the Hon’ble Supreme Court as worthy of being followed by other States and is now religiously being adopted by the Government of India as a pan-Indian Programme.

As Chief Minister, Dr. M.G.Ramachandran, placed great emphasis on socio-economic development of the masses, especially the poor and the downtrodden. He was instrumental in laying the foundation for the rapid socio-economic growth, the State of Tamil Nadu has witnessed in the last four decades. In order to encourage community participation and promote the goal of self-sufficiency at the village level, he introduced the popular “Self Sufficiency Scheme.”

With an innate understanding that knowledge provides children the power to dream of a bright future and attain it, Dr. M.G.Ramachandran introduced a comprehensive package for school children, which included supply of free books, uniforms, footwear, free education upto higher secondary level and the popular Nutritious Noon Meal Scheme. This had far reaching results in terms of improving school attendance and reducing drop-outs appreciably, especially in rural schools.

Dr. M.G. Ramachandran’s love for the language of Tamil and his vision for it’s development manifested in establishing an exclusive Tamil University for Tamil language so as to provide higher research in the Language. As a champion of the cause of women empowerment, especially their education, he established Mother Teresa Women’s University at Kodaikkanal.

To the people of Tamil Nadu and to the Tamils across the world, Dr. M.G. Ramachandran continues to be an inspirational figure who is always remembered for his qualities of magnanimity, generosity, commanding leadership and determination to fight for the legitimate rights of the States.

As desired by him, his residence at Chennai has been converted into a school for the hearing and visually challenged children, after his demise. Dr. M.G. Ramachandran’s life story continues to inspire millions to strive for greater public good through dedicated service.

To honour the memory of Bharat Ratna Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G. Ramachandran, a great and an illustrious son of the Nation, it is felt that it would be proper if, on the occasion of his birth centenary, the Central Railway Station at Chennai, one of the most prominent and iconic landmarks be named after him. In view of the above, the Tamil Nadu Cabinet unanimously resolved on 09.09.2018 to recommend to the Government of India to rename Chennai Central Railway Station after “Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G. Ramachandran.”

I request the Hon’ble Prime Minister to kindly take steps to rename Chennai Central

Railway Station as "Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G. Ramachandran Central Railway Station" in commemoration of his birth centenary.

4. Local Body Grant

Release of Performance Grant for the year 2017-2018 and First instalment of Basic Grant for the year 2018-2019 to Local Bodies.

The 14th Finance Commission had allocated an amount of Rs.365.37 crore and Rs.194.78 crore to the Urban Local Bodies and Rural Local Bodies respectively in Tamil Nadu, as the Performance Grant for the year 2017-2018 and Rs.1,462.18 crore and Rs.1,753.87 crore to the Urban Local Bodies and Rural Local Bodies respectively in Tamil Nadu, as the Basic Grant for the year 2018-2019.

The Ministry of Finance, Government of India have released a sum of Rs.631.98 crore and Rs.758.06 crore as the second instalment of Basic Grant for the Year 2017-2018 under the 14th Finance Commission to Urban Local Bodies and Rural Local Bodies respectively on 17.09.2018 and the same has been released to the Local Bodies by the Government of Tamil Nadu. The Utilization Certificate for the second instalment of Basic Grant for the year 2017-2018 will be sent shortly.

Six months have already been completed in the financial year 2018-2019. All Urban Local Bodies and Rural Local Bodies are in dire need of funds to carry out their day to day affairs to provide its citizen basic amenities. Non release of Performance Grant for the year 2017-2018 and the first instalment of Basic Grant to the Local Bodies for the Financial Year 2018-2019 as recommended by the 14th Finance Commission, is causing serious financial constraint on Urban Local Bodies and Rural Local Bodies.

Hence I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to direct the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, Government of India to release the Performance Grant of Rs.560.15 crore (Rs.365.37 crore to ULBs and Rs.194.78 crore to RLBs) for the year 2017-2018 and the first instalment of Basic Grant of Rs.1,608.03 crore (Rs.731.09 crore to ULBs and Rs.876.94 crore to RLBs) for the financial Year 2018-2019 to Local Bodies in Tamil Nadu under the 14th Central Finance Commission.

5. Setting up of AIIMS at Thoppur, Madurai District

I would like to thank Government of India for approving the establishment of AIIMS at Thoppur in Madurai District. You may also recall that Puratchi Thalaivi Amma was very keen to ensure that the institution of the stature of AIIMS is established and made functional in Tamil Nadu, as it would substantially augment the facilities in the State for providing quality medical education and also in ensuring high-end tertiary level health care in the public sector to benefit the poor and the middle classes. It is ascertained that a Detailed Project Report prepared by Government of India in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare at a tentative cost of Rs.1,264 crore for establishing AIIMS at Thoppur in Madurai District, is awaiting the necessary financial approvals and sanctions of

the Expenditure Finance Committee and the Union Cabinet.

I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to kindly expedite the necessary approvals so that the actual work can be started on ground, within this calendar year itself.

6. Chennai Flood Mitigation
Permanent Flood Mitigation
Management measures for Chennai

During your visit to Tamil Nadu in November 2017, in response to our request, you had kindly agreed to provide Rs.1,500 crore as a Special allocation for flood prevention in Chennai. The comprehensive measures needed for flood prevention have now been studied and costs have been more precisely estimated.

The Greater Chennai city and its urban neighbourhood spread over the river basins of Kosasthalaiyar, Cooum, Adyar and Kovalam are connected through the Buckingham Canal that is formed parallel to the coast in the tidal flats. This system also functions as an unique system for draining surface run-off from the isolated water sheds sandwiched in the above 4 basins through the river mouths viz., Ennore creek, Cooum river mouth, Adyar river mouth and Kovalam creek. In addition to this, many macro drains such as Madhavaram- Manali Lake Canal, Old Napalayam Canal (North Chennai), Secretariat Canal, Semmencheri Canal (South Chennai) and various tanks surplus courses like Kadapakkam lake surplus present in Greater Chennai Corporation will be treated holistically to mitigate the risks.

Chennai city is facing the fury of floods, almost every year during North East Monsoon. The only way to mitigate this problem is to construct Integrated Storm Water Drain Network, which will drain out the surplus water caused by heavy rains effectively and prevent flooding in future.

The Greater Chennai and its Peri-Urban areas are spread over an almost flat terrain along the coastal plains having an average altitude of only 2m above Mean Sea Level. The entire surface runoff drains into the Bay of Bengal only through the outlets namely, Ennore creek on the North, Cooum and Adyar river mouths in the centre and Kovalam creek in the South. The drainage network behind the above outlets formed with natural flood bowls like Ennore backwaters, Pallikaranai marshland and Muttukadu backwaters spread over tidal flats and vast areas of flood plains along the natural rivers, are no longer able to render their functions due to the changes in the land use induced by rapid urbanization and industrial needs resulting in inundation in the upstream areas.

In order to have a comprehensive and Integrated Flood management system of Greater Chennai City, its Peri-Urban areas and surrounding rural areas it is proposed to undertake permanent mitigation measures such as formation of missing links and storm water drains in the river basin, adopting cut & cover systems, providing RCC lining and bed to macro canals, rehabilitating of water bodies etc., in the respective river basins.

The fund requirement for each of the major sub-basin are detailed below : -

Sl. No.	Subject	(Rs. in crores)
I	Integrated storm water drain in Adyar and Cooum Basin	440.00
II	Integrated storm water drain in Kosasthalaiyar Basin	2,518.00
III	Integrated storm water drain in Kovalam Basin	270.00
IV	Purchasing of machineries	100.00
V	Restoration of water bodies	200.00
VI	Balance fund to be provided for North East Monsoon 2015 and 2016	917.84
	Total	**4,445.84**

Hence, I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to kindly instruct the concerned Ministries to allocate necessary funds for taking up the integrated storm water drain network in Kovalam and Kosasthalaiyar Basin as well as for the restoration of water bodies and purchase of machineries as the share of Government of India so that necessary infrastructure required to encounter any kind of flood mitigation work will be installed at the earliest.

7. Integrated Goods and Services Tax (IGST)

Request for IGST settlement due to Tamil Nadu for the financial year 2017-2018

GST operates on the destination principle. The Integrated Goods and Services Tax (IGST) collected is meant to be distributed between the Centre and the States. Approximately 50% of the IGST will accrue to the Centre and 50% to States. States would receive IGST in proportion to the consumption of goods and services on the destination principle.

However, a significant shortfall in the settlements of amounts due to Tamil Nadu was found and accordingly I had addressed the Union Finance Minister Shri Piyush Goyal on 06.07.2018 for early settlement of the unsettled IGST to Tamil Nadu which was to the tune of Rs.5,600 crore approximately.

The actual accumulated amount of IGST is Rs.1,81,418 crore for the financial year **2017-2018** as on March 2018. The said amount has to be settled in the ratio of 50:50 between the Centre and the States. The amount apportioned to the States is Rs.90,709 crore. The share of Tamil Nadu roughly works out to Rs.6,730.60 crore of which Rs.1,304 crore has been settled and a balance of Rs.5,426.60 crore remains unsettled.

The accumulated amount of IGST for the financial year **2018-2019** is being settled by Government of India on adhoc basis. So far, a sum of Rs.62,000 crore has been settled between the Centre and the States. Tamil Nadu received a sum of Rs.2,310 crore. However, adhoc settlement of IGST is due for the month of September, 2018.

Therefore, I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to kindly issue suitable instructions to the Ministry of Finance for early settlement of the unsettled IGST of Rs.5,426.60 crore to Tamil Nadu for the financial year 2017-2018 and the adhoc settlement of IGST due for September, 2018.

8. Cauvery - Mekedatu Project

Not to process further, the Feasibility Report of Mekedatu Project of Karnataka

The Government of Karnataka in June, 2018 sent the Feasibility Report for construction of a reservoir with a capacity of 67.16 T.M.C. ft. and for generation of hydro electric power of 400 MW with a cost estimate of Rs.5,912 crore, (June, 2018 price levels) at Mekedatu across the inter-State river Cauvery for clearance.

The proposal of Karnataka to build a reservoir at Mekedatu across the Cauvery river amounts to a clear violation of the Final Order of the Tribunal and the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court. It will affect the natural flow of the river Cauvery and it will nullify the Final Order of the Tribunal and the Supreme Court. In a federal structure, no upper riparian State should unilaterally interfere with the natural flow of an inter-State river without the consent and concurrence of the lower riparian States. The unilateral action of Karnataka in having approached the Central Water Commission to construct a reservoir at Mekedatu and the action of the Central Water Commission, instead of advising Karnataka to get the concurrence of Tamil Nadu and other co-basin States, but having received the feasibility report, has caused great alarm and apprehension among the people of Tamil Nadu, as it would affect the livelihood of lakhs of farmers who depend on Cauvery water. Since, Cauvery river is a deficit basin, construction of Mekedatu Reservoir or any new project in Karnataka would drastically affect the lower riparian States in getting their due share of water in time.

I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to advise the Government of India to instruct the Central Water Commission or any other Agency to stop forthwith, the further processing of the Feasibility Report of Karnataka to construct a Balancing Reservoir at Mekedatu across the river Cauvery and not to give any consent to any projects in the river Cauvery Basin of Karnataka without obtaining the prior concurrence of Tamil Nadu and the other co-basin States.

9. Cauvery Modernization

Improvements and Rehabilitation of Irrigation Systems in Cauvery Basin for Efficient Irrigation Management under AIBP

A detailed Project Report for improvements and rehabilitation of irrigation systems in the Cauvery basin for efficient irrigation management excluding the components proposed for an ADB supported programme at an estimated cost of Rs.17,600 crore has been prepared for submitting to Central Water Commission, Government of India, New Delhi.

A concept paper on the Improvements and Rehabilitation of Irrigation system in the Cauvery delta for efficient Irrigation Management" at an estimated cost of Rs.11,420 crore (2012 – 2013 price level), was deliberated in the screening Committee of the Central Water Commission and the "in-principle" consent of the Central Water

Commission for the preparation of the Detailed Project Report (DPR) was accorded vide CWC, Project Appraisal(S), New Delhi Lr.no.7/157/2012 PA (S)/264-68 /dated 14.05.2013. Based on the concept paper, a single DPR has been prepared for the above said Nine Components for an amount of Rs.17,600 crore at the price level of 2018-2019.

The improvements and rehabilitation are planned for the age old irrigation systems in the following sub-basins of Cauvery:

Rs.in crore

I.	Cauvery sub basin	5,200.00
II.	Vennar sub basin	4,965.32
III.	Grand Anicut Canal sub-basin	2,158.68
IV.	Lower Coleroon sub basin	1,400.00
V.	Lower Bhavani project	2,850.00
VI.	Kattalai High Level Canal Project	350.00
VII.	Noyyal Sub basin	250.00
VIII.	Raja Voikkal Project	200.00
IX.	Ground Water Recharge Schemes	225.00
	Total	**17,600.00**

The main components included in the proposal are

a. Lining and strengthening the banks of "A"class channels of the distribution net-work.

b. Repair and reconstruction of regulators, grade walls and head sluices, other cross masonry structures on the River systems and also on the main canals.

c. Improvements to the Drainage system and strengthening of banks.

d. Rehabilitation of tanks.

e. Rehabilitation of the existing pumping schemes and extending the pumping network where possible.

The total cost of the scheme works out to Rs. 17,600 crore. The total ayacut benefited is 16.06 lakh acres (6.50 lakh hectares). The Project Implementation has been planned for 3 years.The Project will provide the following tangible benefits:

1. There will be saving in total quantum of water utilizable on account of implementing the Extension, Renovation & Modernisation (ERM) works.

2. Unwarranted leakage in this system can be arrested.

3. The tail end farmers will get their due share of water for irrigation.

4. Water User Associations to be formed to help in proper maintenance of structures in the command area and better management of available water.

5. The existing canal network can be transformed into an all-weather canal system thereby increasing its life.

6. The present water use efficiency will be enhanced considerably.

7. Through the Water User Associations, farmers can be trained to adopt new scientific methods of cultivation thereby increasing yields and in turn income.

8. With significant savings in water, the existing gaps in the irrigation coverage will be reduced to a great extent.

9. Water supply for domestic and industrial needs could be provided.

10. Flood protection to irrigated areas can be provided, reducing crop losses.

11. Regular employment for Agricultural labourers in the region can be assured.

The DPR for one of the nine components, the Grand Anaicut Canal sub-basin has been approved by the CWC vide Lr.no:16/27/2016 - PA (N)/3939-73 dated 06.10.2016 and also placed in the 6th meeting of the investment Clearance Committee of the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, New Delhi held on 05.05.2017. The investment clearance of the project was approved and communicated vide MoWRLr. No. P.20011/2/ 2016-SPR/1098-1114 dated 07.06.2017.

The Tamil Nadu Government issued Administrative Sanction for Extension, Renovation and Modernization (ERM) of Grand Anaicut Canal System in Cauvery Basin for efficient management at an estimated cost of Rs.2,158.68 crore under long term irrigation fund in NABARD under AIBP included in PMKSY as per G.O.(Ms) No.122 Public Works (W1) Department dated 03.05.2018.

I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to kindly give suitable instruction to the concerned Ministry to approve the remaining components of the Project and also provide finance for the project under an appropriate program.

10. Post Matric Scholarship

Post Matric Scholarship to SC/ST students

The Government of Tamil Nadu has a strong belief that social and economic upliftment of the under-privileged sections of the society would be possible and sustainable only by ensuring their educational progress especially in the field of higher education and hence the Government of Tamil Nadu has been implementing the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship to students belonging to Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes in true letter and spirit.

The State of Tamil Nadu would like to draw attention to the recent revision of guidelines for the Scheduled Castes' Post Matric Scholarship scheme, wherein it has been stated that the fees claimed against the Management quota/Spot admission seat in any institutions/Universities will not be reimbursed with effect from April, 2018. In Tamil Nadu, large number of Scheduled Castes students having poor economic background who are not able to get admission under the Government quota on merit, have been availing the benefit under the Post Matric Scholarship scheme under management quota seats in self financing colleges. As a result, the number of Scheduled Castes students joining the Higher and Technical Education Institutions in the State has increased tremendously. In fact, this scheme has largely benefitted the State to achieve a higher Gross Enrollment Ratio of more than 45%. Non-reimbursement of fees for management quota seats under the new guidelines, will create a huge set back in

achieving the goal of social equity and social justice, as it will deny opportunities to the poor Scheduled Castes students in the fields of higher and technical education. This may cause serious resentment and unrest among the Scheduled Castes community. Further, extending the scheme to management quota is permissible under Para III (ii) (a) to (i) of the revised guidelines of the scheme. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India has already been addressed in this regard.

Another important issue is the sharing pattern between the Centre and State for funding the scheme. Presently the expenditure under the scheme at the end of the five year plan period is taken as the committed liability of the State for the next five years. While the committed liability of Tamil Nadu was Rs.353.55 crore in 2011-2012, with effect from 2017-2018, it has risen to Rs.1,526.46 crore. This puts an unbearable burden on the State Government finances. It also results in a situation, where this Central sector scheme will be largely (if not fully) funded by the State from its own resources. Therefore, it is requested that in line with other Central Schemes, the scheme may be funded with a sharing pattern of 60:40 between the Centre and the State. In this issue the Hon'ble Prime Minister has already been addressed by the Hon'ble Chief Minister vide Letter dated 30.05.2018 and 14.06.2018. Further the release of funds by the Government of India to the State Government under this scheme over the years has been both delayed and inadequate. Upto 2017-2018, the State is yet to receive arrears of Rs.985.78 crore from the Government of India. It is requested that, the release of this arrear amount to the State of Tamil Nadu may be expedited, to release the strain on the State Government's finances.

The 2018-2019 academic year has already started and the student admission in the educational institutions is nearing completion and an early favourable decisions on the issues highlighted above will be of immense help to the State of Tamil Nadu.

I therefore request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to issue suitable directions to Ministry of Social Justice to reconstruct the above scheme with a sharing pattern of 60:40 basis between the Centre and the State and also direct the Ministry to release the arrears amounting to Rs.985.78 crore upto 2017-2018 at the earliest.

11. Permanent Cyclonic Mitigation Measures - Fishermen of Tamil Nadu

i. Permanent Naval Station for carrying out Operations by Indian Navy & Indian Coast Guard

It is requested that a permanent station may be set up by Indian Coast Guard with appropriate infrastructure and a Control Room at Kanniyakumari or Colachal. This permanent station should be designed in such a way that any Search and Rescue Operation can be carried out jointly by Indian Navy, Indian Coast Guard and Indian Air Force when there is a cyclonic event or any other reason for rescue of distressed fishing vessel or they are required to be guided to safety. If such a permanent infrastructure is created, it will be possible to quickly mobilize Central Agencies

for a Search and Rescue Operation in this cyclone prone area. This is extremely important as large number of fishermen are engaged in short duration as well as long duration deep sea fishing which makes them exposed to risks. The suggested facility is essential to reach out to the fishermen on high seas and rescue them, even if Transponders are given. Moreover a Naval Station in Kanniyakumari District could be of strategic importance. The Ministry of Defence may be advised to expedite the decision in this regard.

(ii) Communication Equipment for Sea-going Fishermen:

In Tamil Nadu, as on date, there are 31,757 motorised country crafts and 5,913 Mechanised fishing boats registered under uniform online registration of fishing crafts. Among the mechanized fishing boats, 1,500 mechanized fishing boats are deep sea, going on multiday fishing boats venturing beyond 150 nautical miles and they operate for a period of 15-30 days per voyage. These boats are mostly operated from the fishing bases at Chennai, Nagapattinam, Thoothukudi and Kanniyakumari Districts.

Fishing being a high risk profession, thousands of fishermen engaged in fishing in Tamil Nadu do encounter some form of distress or other at sea, which has the potential to cause loss of life and/or damage to property. Most of the time, the loss of life is due to the absence of proper communication equipment, tracking devices and lifesaving appliances.

The following communication equipments would meet the requirements of all types of fishermen/ boats:

a) Providing High Frequency (HF) communication system for Deep Sea venturing fishermen of Tamil Nadu.

Use of High frequency (HF) provides a long range service in both the ship to shore and the shore to ship directions, especially for usage by the deep sea fishing marine fishermen mainly during distress situation.

High Frequencies designated for marine communications range between 4,000 kHz to 27,500 kHz and are called “U” band. In order to provide a proper and efficient communication system for the deep sea vessels of Chennai, Nagapattinam, Thoothukudi and Kanniyakumari Districts of Tamil Nadu, it is proposed to provide 1,500 HF communication equipment on 90% subsidy besides establishing HF control rooms in four locations in Tamil Nadu. Necessary marine frequency in the HF range would have to be obtained from Wireless Planning and Co-ordination Wing, Government of India. An amount of **Rs.109 crore** may be provided for procurement of High Frequency (HF) communication system for Deep Sea venturing fishermen, along with necessary allocation of frequency and provision to operate HF sets by the fishermen.

b) Providing Satellite Phone, NAVTEX

Satellite phones use Low Earth Orbiting (LEO)/(MEO) Medium Earth Orbiting / Geo stationary satellites. Hence, providing Satellite phone and HF will give synergy in terms of communication coverage and cost. The Satellite Phones comes with relatively low Upfront cost, but higher operational cost and are easy to operate as an ordinary cell phone.

Navigational Telex (NAVTEX) is a vital element of the Global Maritime Distress Safety System (GMDSS), using the Feature of Radio telex or narrow band direct printing for the automatic broadcast of information. It is used onboard vessels to provide short range maritime safety information automatically.

It is proposed to provide 1,500 Satellite phones and 1,500 NAVTEX equipment on 90% subsidy and a fixed operating cost for a period of one year, besides establishing required control rooms in four locations in Tamil Nadu. Early sanction of **Rs.50 crore** is requested for procurement of Satellite phones and NAVTEX for Deep Sea venturing fishermen.

c) Providing NavIC for Deep Sea venturing fishermen of Tamil Nadu.

NavIC is the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS) developed and operated by ISRO which Provide Navigation signals in L and S bands. It provides two types of services – Standard Positioning Service (SPS) and Restricted Service (RS) with encryption. The Coverage is over India and 1,500 km around India with position accuracy better than 20m and time accuracy better than 50ns. This device can reach Alert messages on Cyclone, High Waves & Tsunami and warning message on approach of International boundaries as well as information on Potential Fishing Zones (PFZ) where better yield of fish is available to fishermen. An amount of **Rs.10 crore** may be provided for procurement of 10,000 Units of NavIC receiver for fishermen of Tamil Nadu.

d) Supply of Distress Alert Transmitters to the Fishing Boats in Tamil Nadu

The Distress Alert Transmitter is user friendly and seaworthy equipment which can easily be operated by any crew of the boat.

Government of India in their letter No.12014/1/2013-Fy (T-1), dated 29.07.2015 have issued administrative approval for the procurement and supply of 30,000 Distress Alert Transmitters (DATs) to the fishermen / fishing vessels of Tamil Nadu, at a total central financial liability of **Rs.36 crore,** limiting the central assistance to 75%. It is requested to release the amount early. So far, nearly 1,600 Distress Alert Transponders have been supplied.

e) Transponders

Assistance may be extended for installing transponders, which are satellite based locational devices in the fishing vessels. These devices will be very useful to locate deep sea going vessels so that the alerts received from IMD and INCOIS can be analyzed and the deep sea fishing vessels which are at risk can be alerted about the threat and guided to safety, so as to prevent loss of lives. More than 3,000 fishing vessels which are involved in deep sea fishing have to be provided with transponders. Already Government of India has provided transponders in 300 boats. Another 2,700 transponders are additionally required to equip other multi day fishing boats.

f) Providing Dedicated Marine information services in SW/MW Radio:

A dedicated **Marine information services in** radio channels may be launched by INCOIS

in co-ordination with IMD and AIR, which can issue bulletins in regional languages of the fishermen at a scheduled frequency throughout the year. This will go a long way in reducing the vulnerability of deep sea /multiday fishermen groups, since the fishermen can move to secure locations based on the weather bulletin. Moreover, this is a very cost effective technology.

Development of Integrated Fishing Infrastructure in Kanniyakumari District

There are 4 fishing harbours developed in Kanniyakumari District namely Chinnamuttom, Muttom, Colachel and Thengapattinam. Out of the 4 fishing harbours, 3 have been completed and put to use. The Thengapattinam fishing harbour is yet to be completed. However, all these four fishing harbours do not have the capacity and facilities to accommodate the large fishing vessels owned by the fishermen of Kanniyakumari District. There is a need to develop one of these harbours into an integrated harbour with facilities for a) berthing large vessels b) Cold storage c) processing and packaging and d) Quality testing facilities to ascertain SPS compliance and facilitate exports. **The integrated harbour is vital during cyclonic storms/ depression for safe berthing of the large fishing vessels and to prevent** damage to property and loss of life during the berthing of the vessels at short notice. Augmentation of the capacity and facilities in the other harbours will also generate numerous jobs in allied fishing activity, in addition to generating foreign exchange through exports. In addition to the harbour facilities, there is a need for structural interventions such as groynes, break waters etc., to ensure shore protection and minimize the risks of loss of lives.

I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to kindly issue suitable instructions to Ministry concerned to allocate an amount of Rs.400 crore for establishing these structures, which may be considered on priority basis.

12. Finance

Special assistance towards compensation for the unfair treatment meted out by 14th Finance Commission to State of Tamil Nadu

The 14th Finance Commission has recommended an increase of 10% in vertical devolution from 32% to 42% to the States. Though the share in central taxes due to vertical devolution has been increased from 32% to 42%, in reality, the effect has been neutralised by reduction in the horizontal devolutionary share of central taxes to Tamil Nadu from 4.969% to 4.023%. This reduction in the inter-se share to Tamil Nadu is 19.04%, which is the highest erosion in share amongst all States. Thus, the combined effect on Tamil Nadu's overall share in Central Taxes has increased from 1.59% to 1.69% only.

The average increase in share of central taxes during the year 2015-2016 over 2014-2015 is 46.06% among fifteen major States and 49.85% among all the States, whereas Tamil Nadu could get an increase of only 20.98%.This is the lowest amongst all the States. Further, Tamil Nadu is the only State to get an increase in share of central taxes lesser than 30%. By discounting the 18% growth rate in central tax collection, Tamil Nadu has benefitted only by 2.98% additionally over and above normal growth due to the increased share

recommended by 14th Finance Commission, while all other States benefitted by 31% on an average over and above the growth rate in central taxes. It is also pertinent to note that some of the States have been greatly benefitted by the 14th Finance Commission award, registering very high growth rates ranging from 60% to 88% over 2014-2015. From the above, it is clearly evident that the increased devolution in central taxes for Tamil Nadu is purely due to the normal growth in central tax revenue and not due to the 14th Finance Commission's increase in devolution percentage. Ideally, this fact should have been addressed by 14th Finance Commission itself through special compensation grant to States which have been adversely affected while adopting the new allocation criteria formulated by the Commission. Unfortunately this was not done.

Therefore, Tamil Nadu may be compensated with a special assistance of Rs.2,000 crore for under the 14th Finance Commission.

13. Green Climate Fund (GCF) and National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change (NAFCC)

Early clearance of Climate Change Projects for funding under Green Climate Fund (GCF) and National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change (NAFCC) by Ministry of Environment and Forest and Climate Change

Tamil Nadu is one among the States which is very vulnerable to Climate change. The State has 46% of rain fed cropped area and 95% of Surface water has already been utilised. In the wake of these issues, in order to mitigate the impact of climate change, 11 projects involving financial outlay of Rs. 4,544.77 crore has been submitted by Government of Tamil Nadu to the Ministry of Environment and Forest, Climate Change for clearance by the National Steering Committee on Climate Change and forwarding for funding.

Pending status of GCF proposals of TN as on 03.10.2018

Proposals approved by the State Level Steering Committee

Sl. No.	Name of the project	Total Financial Outlay (million USD)	Total Financial Outlay (Rs. in crore)
1	Protection and Restoration of Appa and Koswari Islands of Gulf of Mannar, Tamil Nadu	15.78	102.58
2	Improved Resilience of Urban Ecosystems through targeted restoration of Wetlands	21.55	147.00
3	Shoreline Management of Tamil Nadu Coast to address Sea Erosion caused by Climate change	178.68	1,220.00
4	Augmentation of Groundwater for Climate Resilience of vulnerable communities	211.83	1,445.00
5	Climate Proofing of Rainfed Watersheds in Tamil Nadu	66.18	370.00

6	Mitigating Enteric Methane Emission from Livestock in different farming systems of Tamil Nadu through farmer friendly feed technologies / feeding practices	11.74	79.85
7	Sustainable Water Security Mission (SuWaSEM) for Tamil Nadu	71.83	490.00
8	Purchase of Smart Electric buses under Green Climate Fund submitted by Metropolitan Transport Corporation (MTC) Limited	74.65	500.16
9	Tamil Nadu Green Gramam - Sustainable Energy Village	21.99	150.06
	Total	**674.23**	**4,504.65**

Pending NAFCC Proposals

Status of NAFCC proposals

Sl. No.	**Name of the project**	**Total Financial Outlay (million USD)**	**Total Financial Outlay (Rs. in crore)**
1	Climate resilient fodder production through hydroponic mode to augument livestock productivity in Tamil Nadu, India.	2.34	16.1015
2	Modernization by using Micro Irrigation System with Automation in V.Velur distributary offtake at L.S.44/400 Km of Parambikulam Main Canal in Udumalpet Taluk of Tiruppur District, Tamil Nadu, India.	3.49	24.02
	Total	**5.83**	**40.1215**

GRAND TOTAL	**680.06**	**4,544.7715**

I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to kindly instruct the Ministry concerned to fast track funding under GCF/NAFCC Fund, for these projects.

14. Pending Grants-in-aid from Government of India for major schemes, as on 03.10.2018

Grants-in-aid to the tune of Rs.8,699 crore are yet to be released to Tamil Nadu by the Union Government. The major schemes have been listed below:

(Rs. in crore)

S. No.	Scheme	Details	Amount
1.	Post-Matric Scholarships to Scheduled Caste students	The accumulated arrear of Central grant for this vital socio-educational scheme of scholarships to SC students is due for the years 2016-2017 and 2017-2018. The State Government had already incurred the expenditure and is awaiting the central assistance.	1,219.02
2.	Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan	The Central grant towards this committed liability is due for 3 years since 2015-2016. Major portion of the expenditure is recurring in nature by way of salaries to teachers which could not be postponed/ stopped. Hence, the State Government had to incur the expenditure in anticipation of central grant.	2,109.08
3.	Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan	The accumulated Central assistance is due for more than 4 years and the State Government had met this expenditure of recurring nature in order to provide uninterrupted education.	1,092.22
4.	Reimbursement of Tuition Fees under Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009	For ably administering the scheme and ensuring adequate admissions for the wards of downtrodden people in accordance with the Act, the State Government had borne this expenditure on Tuition Fees. The arrear is due for 4 years from 2013-2014 onwards.	210.36
5.	Material Component under MGNREGA	Due to delay in receipt of central funds, the funds for material component was utilized for payment of wages and subsequently claimed from Government of India. However, due to change in payment pattern for wages, this amount still remains as arrear under the material component and Government of India have to release the grant for the works done.	382.56

6.	Construction of Fishing Harbours	Out of the total project cost of Rs.521 crore for construction of 5 Fishing Harbours sanctioned during 2008 to 2016, Government of India's committed share was Rs.298 crore. Though all the works are nearing completion, the balance Central share is still awaited.	47.53
7.	Performance Grants for Rural & Urban Local Bodies for 2017-2018 and first instalment of General Basic grants for 2018-2019 recommended by 14th Finance Commission	These grants have apparently been withheld by Government of India for non-conduct of Local Bodies elections. The second instalment of the General Basic grants for 2017-2018 has been released recently but the Performance grant for 2017-2018 (Rs.560.15 crore) and first instalment of General Basic grants for 2018-2019 (Rs.1,608.02 crore) are still pending, depriving the local bodies of the crucial resources in augmenting the civic functions to the citizens.	2,168.17
8.	Central Share of Contribution to State Disaster Response Fund	14th Finance Commission had recommended for 90:10 enhanced sharing pattern from the 75:25 ratio for contribution to SDRF. Government of India had indicated in their ATR that enhancement of 90% Central contribution would be implemented after introduction of GST. GST was implemented in July 2017. Still, the Centre has not raised its share. The balance grant is due for the year 2017-2018.	84.15
9.	Disaster Relief Assistance for 2015 Floods	This grant portion sanctioned from NDRF for the 2015 floods had been withheld by Government of India, on the presumption of fund availability under SDRF. But actual fund available under SDRF was less to the extent of Rs.66.90 crore. Hence, the already sanctioned grant from NDRF may be released.	66.90

10.	Grants awarded by 13th Finance Commission	13th Finance Commission recommended grants linked to various schemes and performance incentives had not been received due to the Government of India's decision to stop providing funds for 13th FC spill over items during the 14th FC award period, from the Central Budget for 2015-2016.	522.91
11.	Family Welfare Programme	Salary related expenditure on doctors and other employees engaged in running the Family Welfare Programme. The State had already paid for the committed liability and is awaiting for the liquidation of reimbursement arrears.	40.76
12.	Flood Management Programme	Government of India had sanctioned this scheme in the 11th Plan and carried it over as a spill over work to the 12th Plan. Though the works had been completed by 2012-2013, the central grant is pending for more than 5 years.	392.94
13.	Command Area Development & Water Management Programme	This grant is meant for augmentation of water resources for the agricultural sector benefitting the farmers and is due for the period from 2006-2007 to 2015-2016	81.13
14.	National Savings cum Relief Scheme for Fishermen	This grant is utilized for the welfare of marine fishermen and the expenditure is shared on 50:50 basis by the Centre and State. Here again, the State has been continuously providing the assistance to the fishermen in anticipation of central grants. But the accumulated grant is due for 6 years since 2012-2013	92.66
15.	Marketing Incentive component of National Handloom Development Programme	This grant is utilized for sanction of assistance to Handloom Weavers Co-operative Societies as an incentive to sustain the handloom sector. The non-release of central assistance from 2015-2016 greatly affects the handloom weavers and hence the release of central grant may be expedited.	78.73
		Total	**8,589.10**

The detailed list of arrears of Grants-in-aid to be received from The Central Government is furnished below.

ARREAR RECEIVABLE FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
(as on 3rd October 2018)

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Scheme	Arrear receivable from GoI	Administrative Department	Central Ministry
1	Post - Matric scholarship schemes for scheduled caste students	1,219.02	AD&TW	M/o Social Justice & Empowerment
2	Sarva Shiksha Abiyan (SSA)	2,109.08	Sch. Edn	M/o Human Resource Development
3	Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (including spill over approved for 2015-2016 & 2016-2017)	1,092.22	Sch. Edn	M/o Human Resource Development
4	Material Component under MGNREGS	382.56	RD&PR	M/o Rural Development
5	Grants for Flood Management Programme	342.94	PW	M/o Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation
6	Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009	210.36	Sch. Edn	M/o Human Resource Development
7	Family Welfare Programme (liquidation of arrears)	40.76	H&FW	M/o Health and Family Welfare
8	Construction of Fishing Harbours	47.53	AHD&F	M/o Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
9	Marketing incentive component of National Handloom Development Programme	78.73	HHT&K	M/o Textiles
10	Command Area Development & Water Management Programme (CAD&WMP)	81.13	Agri	M/o Agriculture & Farmers Welfare

11	One time Additional Central Assistance for Annual Plan 2014-2015	76.00	PD&SI	M/o Finance
12	Disaster Relief Assistance for flood in 2015	66.90	Rev	M/o Finance
13	National Savings-Cum-Relief Scheme For Fishermen	92.66	AHD&F	M/o Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
14	Subsidy Assistance For Distress Alert Transmitters	34.00	AHD&F	M/o Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
15	Repair Renovation And Restoration Of Water Bodies	29.39	PW	M/o Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation
16	Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Adolocent Girls-SABLA	12.30	SW	M/o Women and Child Welfare
17	Post Matric Scholarship to Scheduled Tribe Students	5.70	AD&TW	M/o Tribal Affairs
18	Pre Matric Scholarship to Scheduled Tribe Students	2.48	AD&TW	M/o Tribal Affairs
	Total	**5,923.76**		

Finance Commission Grant

19	13th Finance Commission grants pending	522.91	Finance	M/o Finance
20	Finance Commission Grants to Local Bodies	2,168.18	RD&MAWS	M/o Finance
21	SDRF	84.15	Rev	M/o Finance
	Grand Total	**8,699.00**		

I therefore request the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to instruct the concerned Ministries of Government of India to release the above funds at the earliest.

15. Establishment of Government Dental College at Virudhunagar

Considering the growing demand of the meritorious students of the State for professional dental courses and the welfare of the people of the Southern parts of Tamil Nadu, Government of Tamil Nadu sanctioned a new Government Dental College at Virudhunagar. You are aware that the Government of India had, based on backwardness, identified Virudhunagar as one of the two backward Districts with an aim to quickly and effectively developing and included it in the aspirational Districts initiative. State Government have also issued Essentiality Certificate for the establishment

of a new Government Dental College at Virudhunagar from the year 2019-2020. The application, along with a copy of the Essentiality Certificate, Consent of affiliation of the Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University and Undertaking of State Government to provide continuous allotment of adequate funds in the budget allocation have been sent to the Dental Council of India for the Consent of the establishment of a new Government Dental College at Virudhunagar from the year 2019-2020, with an annual intake of 100 BDS seats. The required permission from the Dental Council of India is awaited.

I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to kindly intervene by instructing the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare in obtaining permission of the Dental Council of India to start the said Government Dental College at Virudhunagar from the academic year 2019-2020.

16. Establishment of Government Medical College at Ramanathapuram

Government of India has not given approval for the establishment of any Government Medical College in Tamil Nadu in the Phase-I and Phase-II under Centrally Sponsored Scheme on the ground that no block of three Parliamentary Constituencies is lacking availability of atleast one Government Medical College.

On this issue, I would like to state that Tamil Nadu has been a pioneer in the implementation of various schemes in the Health and Medical Education, in addition to prioritising and investing enormous amounts of State funds to set up Medical Colleges on its own. In spite of this, there are more than 13 Districts in Tamil Nadu, which have no Government Medical College, but have readily available land and District hospitals eligible for consideration under this Centrally Sponsored Scheme. The State also has the challenges of inter District disparities, despite our efforts and the implementation of schemes under the National Health Mission. The State is continuously taking all efforts to redress and provide access to 'State of Art' health facilities, including tertiary care to all, within the Districts itself.

It is in this background that the need for establishing a Medical College at Ramanathapuram becomes very relevant. You are already aware that the Government of India itself based on backwardness, have identified Ramanathapuram as one of the two backward Districts, with an aim to develop them quickly and effectively and included them in the aspirational Districts initiative. Ramanathapuram District has been historically backward and geographically remote, with a long coast line. Rameswaram Temple, an internationally acclaimed tourist centre which attracts lakhs of pilgrims from all over India and across the world, is located in this District. At present, the District lacks a tertiary medical care facility in the form of a Government or Private Medical College, because of which people of the District have a travel all the way to Madurai, which is located at a distance of 110 kms, to avail tertiary care. Hence, there is

an urgent need to establish the tertiary medical care facility in this District. Sanction of a new Government Medical College under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme would go a long way in addressing the need for establishing such a tertiary medical care institution for this aspirational District. I would like to also mention that Ramanathapuram already has a functional District Headquarters Hospital and adequate land, as per the requirements stipulated by the Medical Council of India (MCI).

Despite having a clear case for being considered for sanction of a new Government Medical College at Ramanathapuram, it is disappointing that both in the Phase-I, where 58 Government Medical Colleges were sanctioned and in Phase-II, where 24 Government Medical Colleges have been announced, Tamil Nadu has not been considered, inspite of land and a functional District/ referral hospital being readily available in the District.

Even though Government of India is taking a position that the present proposal for establishment of 24 Government Medical College was based on a criteria to have atleast one Government Medical College for three Parliamentary Constituencies in India.

I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to direct the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India to relax the condition to facilitate sanction of a Government Medical College at Ramanathapuram District under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Establishment of New Medical Colleges attached with existing District / Referral Hospitals".

17. Industries - Industrial Hub for Defence Products in Salem

Promotion of an industrial estate at the vacant lands in Salem Steel Plant by setting up an industrial hub for defence products

Hon'ble Union Minister for Finance had announced the formation of two Defence Industrial Production Corridors in the Union Budget 2018-2019. Subsequently, the Hon'ble Union Minister for Defence Smt. Nirmala Sitaraman had announced that one of the two Defence Industrial Production Corridors would be located in Tamil Nadu. The establishment of this corridor will certainly take the State of Tamil Nadu to a new trajectory of growth and development, apart from bringing in high-technology production to the State, which has got the potential to rise up to the expectations of the requirements of the Defence.

Tamil Nadu has the best eco-system available for the formation of high technology Defence Clusters which require skilled man power, high quality infrastructure, uninterrupted power supply, peaceful labour relations, excellent law and order and enabling environment of Ease of Doing Business. The State Government would extend its full support for the formation of the Defence Cluster in the State and facilitate all the investments that will be attracted in the Cluster.

In this regard, the unutilized lands available to the tune of 1,400 acres, with the Salem Steel Plant ever since its inception can be considered for the establishment of the Defence Industrial Cluster, since it is located on

the proposed Chennai-Vellore–Salem-Hosur-Coimbatore-Trichy Corridor route and also has all the advantages that Tamil Nadu possess as mentioned above.

On 06.02.2018, the Secretary, Ministry of Steel, Government of India has been addressed by the State Government to re-convey the lands not utilized by the Salem Steel Plant for the development of an Industrial Park. I request your kind intervention in the matter and arrange for re-conveyance of the unutilized lands in the premise of Salem Steel Plant to establish the Industrial Hub for Defence Products.

This area will be an ideal location for the formation of the proposed Defence Industrial Cluster and more importantly considering this unutilized land will enable the proposed Defence Cluster to start without any delay caused due to fresh land acquisition and other related issues.

I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to instruct the Defence Ministry to implement this Project at the earliest.

18. Labour and Employment

Saving employment of 8 lakh people in Fireworks Industry in Tamil Nadu

About 850 fireworks manufacturing units are functioning in Tamil Nadu. These units are mostly located in Virudhunagar District and contribute 90% of the fireworks produced in the country. They provide employment to more than 8 lakh people mostly women, directly or indirectly. All the manufacturers observe very high standards of safety and have evolved as a well regulated industry over a period of time.

In the recent past, the Industry is facing a major setback due to filing of Public Interest Litigations by a few NGOs and individuals before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India to ban manufacture, sale and use of fireworks in any form. The manufacturers of fireworks have suffered huge financial losses and there has also been loss of employment due to imposition of ban on sale of fireworks in National Capital Region during the 2017 Diwali season.

Even though the ban was subsequently lifted by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, few more Public Interest Litigations have been filed before the Supreme Court of India and the same have been admitted. This has caused chaos among the firework manufacturers. 850 factories went on strike from 26.12.2017 to 19.01.2018 as they were unsure of the outcome of the pending Public Interest Litigation. During the main Pongal festival, of them have lost their earnings.

As per the request of the Fireworks Manufacturers Association, an implead petition was filed by the Micro, Small and Medium Entrepreneurs Department on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Government. The case was heard last on 28.08.2018 and is reserved for judgment. The issue has to be sorted out immediately; otherwise production of crackers and the livelihood of lakhs of workers for the next Diwali festival will be adversely affected.

Use of fireworks during Diwali and many other religious and cultural festivals is deeply rooted in our tradition. Even in the developed

countries like U.S.A., Singapore, Japan, Australia and the EU Nations allow massive display of fireworks during celebration of religious, cultural and National events such as Christmas, New year, Independence day, etc. The State Government will facilitate improvement in chemical technology, better quality fireworks which leads to lesser pollution.

As per rule 3(b) of the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, only when the level of any of the pollutants mentioned in the table in Schedule-VII goes beyond the prescribed limit in the said table for two consecutive days shall ring the alarm bells and continuous monitoring and further investigation be instituted. In the case of fireworks, almost all reported scientific data has revealed reversing of the level of pollution to the level prior to the use of fireworks, within 24 hours.

It is learnt that the manufacturers of fireworks in Tamil Nadu use nitrate salts for its production, which is much less polluting than chloride salts, which are used extensively in fireworks manufactured in other parts the world. Further, none of the firework manufacturers in Tamil Nadu are using the chemicals prohibited under various Pollution Control Rules or by the Supreme Court of India.

The manufacturers of fireworks in Tamil Nadu are using safe and environment friendly chemicals which are compatible to the health of the works as well as to the environment and are producing fancy crackers. Hence, there are no recorded long term effect on the environment. Since the use of fireworks is attached to our socio cultural traditions, any ban on production, sale and use of the same will adversely affect the sentiments of the people of India. It will also affect the livelihood of 8 lakh people and push them into poverty.

I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to direct the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to carry out necessary amendment to Rule 3(b) of the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 and exempt the fireworks manufacturing industry from various provisions of the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, thereby saving the livelihood of 8 lakh families dependent on fireworks industry.

19. Udan Scheme

Request flight operations to Hosur, Neyveli & Ramanathapuram and evening flight service to Salem.

I would like to thank you for the efforts taken by Ministry to promote Air connectivity between Regions under the UDAN scheme in the State of Tamil Nadu. People in and around Salem District have welcomed the scheme and are benefitted by the flight services to Salem Airport.

Similarly, Hosur is an important industrial hub in Krishnagiri District, which was selected under the UDAN Scheme in the first phase and flight operations are yet to start for want of "No Objection Certificate" from Bangalore International Airport. The Hosur Airport, will be an engine of growth to the industrial hub of Krishnagiri and neighbouring Districts and also

will develop the Chennai – Bangalore Industrial Corridor.

Neyveli has also been selected in the Phase-I of UDAN Scheme and bidding process with airline operators has been completed.

I would also like to point out that Ramanathapuram has been included in the Phase-II of the UDAN Scheme. Rameswaram is an important Pilgrimage and Tourism centre, attracting tourists from all over India.

Therefore, I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister may kindly instruct, Ministry of Civil Aviation to start Air operations to Hosur, Neyveli and Ramanathapuram as expeditiously as possible. I also request that an evening flight service between Salem and Chennai may be introduced under the UDAN Scheme.

20. Agriculture

Further increase in MSP for Copra.

Tamil Nadu is one of the major Coconut growing States in the Country with an area of around 4.35 lakh hectares. Every year, the Government of India, based on the recommendation of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), is declaring Minimum Support Price (MSP) for various agricultural crops which also include Copra. For 2018 Copra season, **Government of India has declared Rs.75.11 per Kg as MSP for Milling Copra. But, in major Copra markets of Tamil Nadu, Kerala & Karnataka, the present market price is ranging between Rs.90 to Rs.110 per Kg and the same trend is expected to continue till the end of the season.**

The Government of Tamil Nadu have suggested Rs.90 per kg for Milling Copra for 2018 Copra Season, considering various parameters like area, production, pest & disease infestation, cost of cultivation, demand & supply, etc., As suggested by the Government of Tamil Nadu, the present market rate ranges between Rs.90 to Rs.110 per Kg in leading copra markets in Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka. The agmarknet.gov.in portal presents that the market price in neighbouring States also ranges above Rs.100 per kg and is even as high as Rs.160 per kg in some markets like Tumkur in Karnataka.

The Government of India, for crops like Paddy, Ragi and Pulses, has fixed the MSP at 150% of the cost of cultivation.

I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to direct the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare to declare Minimum Support Price(MSP) for Milling Copra at Rs.105 per kg for the current 2018 Copra season, for safeguarding the interest of Coconut growers of not only Tamil Nadu but also of other States. This request would be in tune with your vision of doubling farmers' income.

Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurates Wellness Training for Tamil Nadu Police Personnel

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami** at the inauguration of the 'Training for Wellness for Police Personnel' on 20.09.2018 *(English Translation)*.

Bowing to Goddess Hon'ble Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma,

The Tamil Nadu Police Department functions as the custodian of people of the State. This 'Training for Wellness' programme has been arranged to further invigorate the Department and encourage greater efficiency. I am extremely happy to participate in this inauguration.

Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister Thiru.O.Panneerselvam who has taken part in this pleasant function, Hon'ble Minister for Forests Thiru. Dindigul C.Sreenivasan, Hon'ble Minister for Electricity, Prohibition and Excise Respected brother Thiru. P.Thangamani, Hon'ble Minister for Municipal Administration, Rural Development and Implementation of Special Programme Thiru.S.P.Velumani, Hon'ble Minister for Fisheries, Personnel and Administrative Reforms, Respected Brother Thiru.D.Jayakumar, Hon'ble Minister for Higher Education Thiru.K.P.Anbalagan, Chief Secretary to Government Respected Dr.Girija Vaidyanathan, Additional Principal Secretary to the Department of Home, Prohibition and Excise Thiru. Niranjan Mardi, Director General of Police Respected Thiru.T.K.Rajendran, Director of the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences and the co-executor of this training with Tamil Nadu Police Department Respected Prof. Gangadhar, Registrar and Professors of this Institute, Higher officials of the Government

and Police Department, Police Constables and members of their families, Newspaper and Media friends – my regards to all.

Our Police Department maintains law and order at all times, it is the excellent custodian of general order. For the 'Tharaga mantra' of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma - 'Peace, Prosperity, Progress' – the tap root is the first mantra 'Peace'. An efficient Police Department is essential to maintain peace. It is the basis for the growth and development of a State.

For the economic development of a State, peace should prevail. I am proud to state that our Police Department does this task effectively to make Tamil Nadu a Garden of Peace.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma had goodwill for the Police and confidence in the force; she implemented many schemes for their welfare and appreciated their work by comparing it to that of the army.

Risking their own lives, the Police fight against anti-social elements and root them out. They have eradicated the movement of extremists in Tamil Nadu.

In addition to the maintenance of law and order, they are performing extensive tasks like prevention of crimes, detection of crimes, regulation of traffic, provision of security to VIPs and important establishments, management of natural disasters and implementation of different social laws.

We are aware of the abuse sometimes while discharging duties. But you go about your duty in accordance with the wise saying, 'My duty rests solely in fulfilling my work.' People are also aware of this. The Police, forming into several teams, helped the affected people in different ways during last year's heavy rains. Let me cite a few instances. A Police Inspector got into a storm water drain and removed the obstructions so that the stagnant water on the road could drain off. A Sub-Inspector adopted a student who had lost his parents. Another Police Personnel arranged a meeting between a 72-year-old man and his long-separated grandson. We and the general public note and appreciate such humanitarian help they render, after knowing about them through the newspapers and social media. You have rendered innumerable acts of service along with the Government.

When wronged people come to Police Stations seeking justice and when you understand their problems and deal with them in a humane and sympathetic manner, arraigning

the culprits before the Law and getting them punishment, you must feel proud of the job you are doing. We also feel pride over such acts. Such works of the Police Department create confidence and respect in the people towards Law and Government.

A Western intellectual Maxim Gorky said that the foremost joy is the feeling that the people need you and that you are close to the people; it is also the most lasting joy. This saying fits the work of the Police force well. Policemen work in the most adverse climatic conditions, braving heat, rain and cold. As a result, they sometimes are unable to take food in time. The nature of their job prevents them from sparing time for their families. This subjects the Police Personnel and members of their families to stress. This Government knows well the problems faced by Police Personnel. That is why Hon'ble Amma's Government pays utmost attention to their well being at the personal and Departmental levels.

In his films, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar illustrated the greatness of the Police Department through his roles. Even in those days, he kindled an impulse in the youth to join the Police Department.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar and Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma implemented many welfare schemes for the Police Department, and these are being followed by Hon'ble Amma's Government. I wish to mention a few of them here.

• Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. set up a separate Housing Board for Police Personnel. Later, Hon'ble Amma expanded it.

• Through the 'Own Your House' project, Hon'ble Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma enabled Constables to have their own houses.

• At 50 places all over Tamil Nadu, 'canteens' have been set up for Police Personnel and essential commodities are supplied at cheap rates.

• This Government has ordered whole body scan every year for Constables who have completed 40 years of age; I wish to inform that Hon'ble Amma's Government issued orders on 20.08.2018 to extend this benefit to Constables of 30 years of age.

• To reduce the work load of Police Personnel, Hon'ble Amma's Government have appointed in the last 7 years 100 Deputy Superintendents of Police, 1,112 Sub-Inspectors and 32,905 Constables (Grade II). Vacancies are also filled up as and when they arise.

• In the last 7 years of this Government's rule, appointments were given to the heirs of 1,232 Police Personnel on compassionate grounds.

• Similarly, Rs.42.45 crore was distributed from the Chief Minister Public Relief Fund to the families of 1,461 Police Constables who had died on various counts while in service, as a relief measure.

• Thirty-five out-patient service centres have been set up for the benefit of Police Personnel and their families and they are functioning well.

• A unified closed user group mobile network is in operation for the benefit of all Police Personnel and their families.

• I am happy to state that foundation was laid on 04.06.2018 for a community hall to be constructed at a cost of Rs.10 crore at Avadi, Chennai for the welfare of Constables.

Innumerable schemes like these are being implemented by the Tamil Nadu Government.

It is natural for Constables to suffer from stress and tension on account of the nature of their job. For Constables to do their work without any slackening of effort and for Police Personnel to do their duty to the Country with a sense of fulfillment, the co-operation of their families is essential.

Likewise, Police Personnel too should spend enough time with their families. This will bring about a healthy environment both in the families of Police Personnel and in their work place.

Hence, to take care of the mental health of Police Personnel and their family welfare, the Tamil Nadu Government designed, after great scrutiny, this excellent 'Training for Wellness' programme. The Tamil Nadu Government is giving this training to Tamil Nadu Police Personnel and to their families, jointly with the Bengaluru-based world class NIMHANS (National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences). This type of training has not been given so far even in the Indian army or in its auxiliary army. I am proud to point out Tamil Nadu is the only State where, this type of training is to be given to Police Personnel – from the top officer to the last grade Constable.

Police Constables and their families in all Districts, Police Divisions and Special Divisions will be given this wellness training. For this, 358 coaches will be appointed in all Districts and they will train the Police Personnel in their respective Districts. The training for the coaches will last a year and they will be given diploma certificate in wellness guidance. After this, the master coaches will train the Police Personnel for two years.

For those with a higher level of stress, the training will be given separately.

I am duty bound to give you some suggestions for maintaining a good ambience in the work place and in families. In accordance with the old Tamil saying that a picture can be drawn if only there is a wall, Police Personnel should pay attention to their physical health. They should keep their body healthy through exercise, walking, meditation etc. While relaxing after exercise, one will feel a sense of rejuvenation.

• Read the biographies of persons who have changed their weaknesses into strength; make it a daily habit to read good books and listen to inspiring speeches.

• Dedicate a part of your time or money in a planned manner to charitable activities without expecting any reward.

• Keep away from evil associations; don't give room to friends' persuasions.

• Learn to appreciate lovingly and heartily and to receive the same from others.

• Start owning responsibility for your actions and conduct.

• Observe self-control without fail even if it is inconvenient.

• Move with those known for their high discipline.

• Be creative in converting your weaknesses into strength.

• Be patient; continue your work even if the results are not in sight.

For the conduct of this Wellness Training that will bestow peace of mind, health and happiness among Police Personnel, I wish to inform you that Hon'ble Amma's Government has allotted Rs.10 crore for the current year. This training will be imparted within a year to about 1,20,000 Police employees, working at all levels and to their family members, numbering about 3,60,000. I affectionately request the Police Personnel and their families to make use of this training in a good manner. There is no doubt that the mental health of Police Personnel and their families will improve through this wellness training which, in turn, will facilitate Police Personnel to execute their work with renewed energy and excellence. Likewise, a peaceful atmosphere will prevail in the families of Police Personnel. An individual's peace will evolve into peace in the family; peace in the family will create peace in the State; peace in the State will change into peace in the Country and the Country's peace will evolve into world peace.

"Do good; do good today; do good now itself", is the saying of our wise men. This wellness training has been shaped after careful scrutiny several times and has been structured with many levels. I hope it will give you health and peace of mind in your lives and in your work. Those who want to achieve will smash the hurdles that confront them and accomplish their work successfully. People, in the Police Department, are born to accomplish. Hence, I affectionately urge you to overcome the impediments that may come in your way and successfully complete the task given to you.

Hon'ble Amma's Government that treads the path of Hon'ble Amma, has given the Police complete freedom. It does not interfere in their work. That is why rule of law prevails in Tamil Nadu today. Because of this freedom, the Tamil Nadu Police has functioned excellently under the guidance of the Tamil Nadu Government and maintains its individuality at the Global and National levels. In investigation, controlling crimes and inland security, our Police Department strides ahead as the model State for others.

My good wishes for the conduct of this training, organized excellently to further improve the Police Department.

I convey my hearty thanks to all the good hearts that have arranged this function in a good way.

Hailing Anna Naamam Vaazhga! Valarga Puratchi Thalaivarin Pugazh!, Onguha Puratchi Thalaivi Amma Avargalin Pugazh! I conclude my speech.

Nandri! Vanakkam!

Hon'ble Chief Minister opens Centre for Excellence, 5 technical SDIs

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru.Edappadi K.Palaniswami declared open from the Secretariat through video conferencing on 10.10.2018, a Centre of Excellence on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation of the Labour and Employment Department.

Located at the MIT campus in Anna University at Chromepet in Kancheepuram District, the Centre of Excellence has been set up at a cost of Rs. 546.84 crore and will provide International-level training in advanced technology to technically qualified graduates passing out from Engineering and Polytechnic Colleges.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister on the occasion inaugurated five technical Skill Development Institutes (t-SDIs), one each at Anna University College, Kancheepuram and Villupuram, Thanthai Periyar Government Institute of Technology, Vellore, Central Polytechnic College, Taramani, and Murugappa Polytechnic College (Aided) Avadi, linked to the Centre of Excellence.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma announced on 20.09.2016 that the Tamil Nadu Government, in co-operation with the Ms. Siemens and Designtech would set up a Centre of Excellence and 5 Technical Skill Development Institutes in the State.

As per Hon'ble Amma's announcement, Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru.Edappadi K.Palaniswami inaugurated the Centre of Excellence set up at the MIT Complex at Anna University, Chromepet in co-operation with the Ms.Siemens and Designtech. It will offer high-end skill training to enhance the employability of technical students in tune with the latest industry requirements. These skill training programmes will be anchored at Anna University, Chennai, which will be the hub providing skills in designing, automation,

robotics etc., to the students of these institutions which will function as the spokes of the model.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also declared open five technical Skill Development Institutes as mentioned. Along with the students studying in these t-SDIs, students from other colleges will also be given high tech training. Siemens of Germany has installed training gadgets of International standard in these institutes. Along with Siemens, Designtech will also provide direct training to students. As the training will be given based on the changing technological requirements, students who are undergoing training in these institutes will enhance their employability level and will get employment opportunities in local and International MNCs. For the Centre of Excellence and five t-SDIs the Tamil Nadu Government's contribution will be Rs. 54.68 crore.

Vermiculite plant at Sevathur Village

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, at the Secretariat on 10.10.2018 declared open a Vermiculite Exfoliation plant, costing Rs.1.80 crore, on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Minerals Ltd., at Sevathur Village in Tirupattur Taluk in Vellore District.

The plant has a production capacity of 2,520 tonnes and is likely to sell 3.12 lakh worth Vermiculite mineral per annum. A sophisticated machine has been installed so as to avoid environmental pollution.

The products manufactured in this unit, are being sold to Forest Department, Agriculture Department and Horticulture Department to prepare natural manure, to retain moisture and to withstand heat on the ceiling in the construction industry.

13 Tamil Nadu Government Hospitals bag quality awards from Union Health Ministry

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru.Edappadi K.Palaniswami at the Secretariat on 03.10.2018, presented Quality Certificates and grants, worth Rs.2.8 crore, to 13 Government Hospitals in the State under the National Quality Assurance Standards Programme (NQASP), given by the Union Health Ministry.

On this occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister also presented Kayakalp Award, consisting of a shield, a commendation certificate and a cash grant of Rs.1 crore to 4 Government Hospitals, which were selected for maintaining cleanliness. These medals and certificates were handed over to the District Joint Directors (Medical and Rural Development) and Deputy Directors (Health Services).

Under the National Quality Assurance Programme, the best maintained Government Hospitals are selected on the basis of health care delivery, quality health index, proper maintenance and patients' feedback about services provided. The selected Government Hospitals are granted Rs.10,000 for each bed, and the Primary Health Centres Rs.3,00,000 each as incentives along with quality certificates by the Central Government. These grants are given continuously for three years. For these awards, the National Study Group conducts review of 17 wings of District Headquarters Hospitals and 12 wings of the Upgraded PHCs, and 6 wings in PHCs.

The 3-member study group, sent by the Government of India during the year 2017-2018 conducted inspection for three days during April-May 2018 and selected Government District Headquarters Hospitals - Usilampatti in Madurai District, Pennagaram in Dharmapuri District, Padmanabhapuram in Kanniyakumari District, Erode in Erode District, Cuddalore in Cuddalore District, Namakkal in Namakkal

District and Udhagamandalam in Nilgiris District and 6 Primary Health Centres – Palayampudur Primary Health Centre in Dharmapuri District and upgraded PHCs in Morappur in Dharmapuri District, Sayalkudi in Ramanathapuram District, Vadalur in Cuddalore District, Mugaiyur in Villupuram District and Mecheri in Salem District have been given National Quality Certificates and a cash grant of Rs.2.8 crore.

Government Hospitals, which excel in maintaining cleanliness and environmental hygiene and infection control were selected at the State-level on the basis of three stage inspection and the selected first two District Government Head-quarters Hospitals were given Kayakalp Award by the Central Government. While the best selected hospital is given Rs. 50 lakh, the second best hospital is given Rs. 20 lakh. In a similar manner, Regional hospitals and Upgraded Primary Health Centres were given Rs.15 lakh as the first prize.

The District Headquarters Hospital, Cuddalore won the First Prize and the Manapparai Government Headquarters Hospital in Tiruchirappalli District got the second prize in maintaining cleanliness, environmental hygiene and infection control. Among the Regional Hospitals, Aruppukottai Government Hospital in Virudhunagar District and Upgraded PHCs in Mugaiyur in Villupuram District were selected for the Kayakalp Award by the Union Health Ministry and were given a cash grant of Rs.1 crore.

Twenty per cent bonus for transport staff

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, who is providing a good governance in the State under the leadership of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, has ordered the issue of bonus along with ex-gratia for the year 2017-2018 to the workers and employees of the Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporations to celebrate Deepavali festival in a grand manner.

The State Government, headed by Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, allotted Rs. 215.99 crore for giving 8.33 per cent bonus and an ex-gratia of 11.67 per cent, totally 20 per cent to 1,44,045 qualified workers, (including 6,416 substitutes) and employees.

To offset the additional expenditure incurred by the Transport Corporations on account of continuous increase in diesel prices from 20.01.2018 to 30.09.2018, the State Government had paid Rs. 198.66 crore as subsidy to the Transport Corporations.

Though the State Transport Corporations are facing severe financial crunch and find it difficult to pay retirement benefits to retired employees in time, the State Government, which shows concern for welfare of workers, allotted Rs. 251.02 crore to the Corporations for paying retirement benefits to employees for the period December 2017 to March 2018.

Due to this 1,113 retired employees have got PF benefits, 1,576 retired employees have got gratuity, 1,837 retired employees earned leave salary and 714 retired have got employees pension surrender amount. There are also 118 beneficiaries under the new contributory pension scheme.

Hon'ble Chief Minister hands over Rs.1.28 crore to medal-winning sportspersons, trainers

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, handed over on 03.10.2018, cheques for Rs. 1.10 crore to three players belonging to Tamil Nadu, who won medals at the 18th Asian Games held at Jakarta Palembang from August 18 to September 2 and Rs.18 lakh to their trainers.

To make the State the best in sports and youth development in the Country, the Tamil Nadu Government, treading the path of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, have been giving high cash incentives for players who win in National and International sports events. It also identifies competent players and provides them proper training, setting up playgrounds of International standards in the State.

In this connection, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over a cheque for Rs.60 lakh to Thiru. Arokia Rajiv, who was a member of the Indian Athletics Mixed and Men's 4x400m relay teams and won 2 silver medals at the18th Asian Games held at Jakarta Palembang, and a cheque for Rs.30 lakh to Selvi Sunayna Kuruvilla, who won the silver medal in the Squash Team event. He also gave a cheque for Rs.20 lakh to Prajnesh Gunneswaran, who won a Bronze Medal in the Men's Tennis event.

Cheques for Rs. 18 lakh were handed over to three coaches - Thiru.Anjan Chinnappa, Tmt.Dimple Mathivanan and Amishved, who trained the medal winning players.

Totally, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over Rs.1.28 crore to players and their coaches and wished them more success in their future endeavours.

The players and the coaches wholeheartedly thanked the Tamil Nadu Government and the Hon'ble Chief Minister for the support.

Hon'ble Chief Minister writes to Hon'ble Prime Minister on coal supply

Text of the D.O. letter dated 14.09.2018 of **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami,** Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu addressed to **Shri Narendra Modi,** Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

I wish to bring to your kind attention that the coal stock in the State has reached critically low level due to less receipt of coal from the coal companies. At present, the thermal power stations of the Tamil Nadu Government power utility (TANGEDCO), have a stock sufficient only for three days. In this regard, I wish to inform that on an average72,000 metric tonnes of coal is required per day to maintain continuous generation in the power plants of TANGEDCO. This translates into atleast 20 rakes of coal receipt on a daily basis. However, on an average we are receiving only 7 to 8 rakes per day. This coupled with the fact that the wind energy season also gets over by the middle of September has made the situation quite precarious. Unless the coal supply position is improved immediately, some of the thermal power stations will have to be shut down leading to power outages in Tamil Nadu.

Therefore, I request you to kindly instruct the concerned authorities, both the Ministry of Coal as well as in the Ministry of Railways to ensure a supply of 72,000 metric tonnes of coal per day to the State of Tamil Nadu at the earliest.

Birth Anniversary of Poet Surada - November 21

Mother

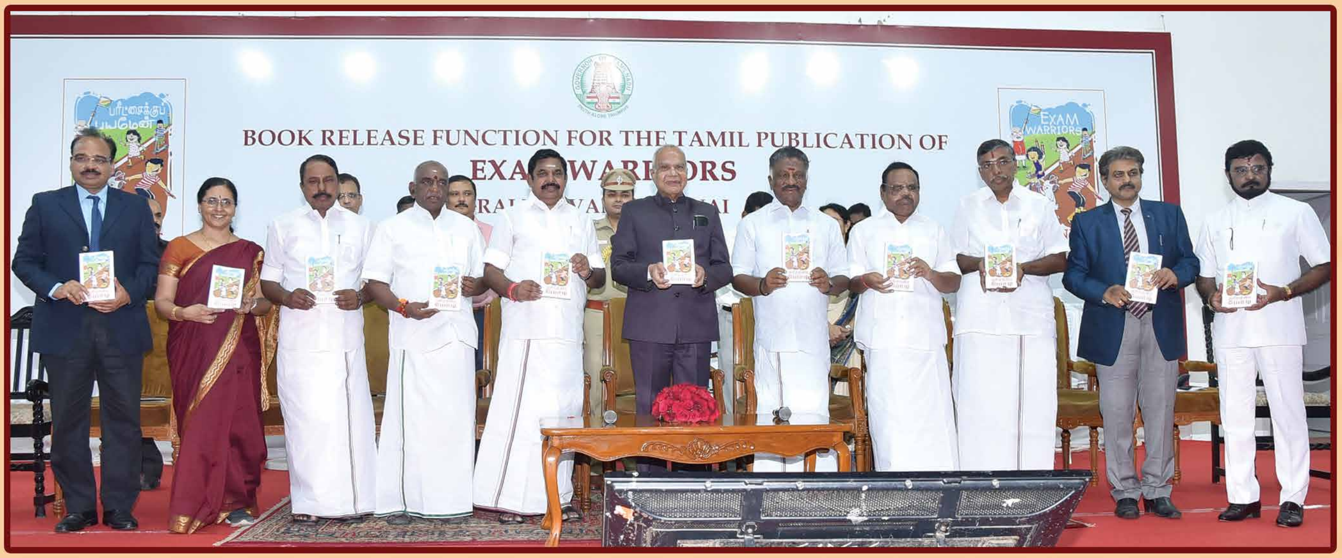
Mother gives us all
like a proverbial coconut tree
Solitude is the story of separation.
Motherhood is the story of the germ of embryo.

The womb of irrational beings is the earth.
The womb of rational beings is Mother.

- Surada's Poetry

'Tamil Nadu follows all the ideas laid out in Why Fear Exams?'

Hon'ble Chief Minister pays glowing tributes to Hon'ble Prime Minister for educational ideas



Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** at the book release function of 'Paritchaikku Bayamaen', the Tamil version of Prime Minister **Shri Narendra Modi's** 'Exam Warriors' book, on 04.09.2018 *(English Translation).*

Paying obeisance to goddess Hon'ble Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma,

Hon'ble Governor, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister Thiru. O.Panneerselvam, Hon'ble Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Thiru.P.Dhanapal, Hon'ble Central Minister of State, Thiru. Pon. Radhakrishnan, Hon'ble Minister for School Education Thiru. K.A.Sengottaiyan, Hon'ble Minister for Higher Education Thiru. K.P.Anbalagan, Hon'ble Ministers, Respected Chief Secretary to Government, Respected Additional Chief Secretary Thiru. R.Rajagopal I.A.S., Respected Principal Secretary to the Department of School Education, Representatives from all Publishing Houses, Elders, Ladies, Respected Teachers, High Officials of Government – at the outset, I thankfully pay my respects to all of you.

Knowledge grows as you continues to learn is what Tiruvalluvar conveys through his couplet,

"Thottanaithu oorum Manarkeni maandharukku katranaithu oorum arivu."

The more one learns, freer streams of wisdom flow, even as deeper one delves into sandy soil, one reaches the springs below. Learning starts from infancy, when the child recognizes its mother upon seeing her face. At that stage, the mother rises to the level of a teacher or Guru and starts teaching the infant about the relatives, the surroundings and the objects around. Then, the teacher introduces

the world to the child. That is why there is the saying, *'Maatha, Pithaa, Guru, Deivam'* (mother, father, guru and God). If a person follows the diktats of mother, father and guru, God will come in search of the child and will bless. One need not go in search of God. Only a learned person is respected as a complete man. Youth is a time of learning. What one gains later are intelligence and experience. The education one gets when young determines one's future. That is why children's education should be given greater importance. Approaching children psychologically and teaching them is a great art - a magnificent, sacred, divine art. That is why there should be greater focus on children's education. Teachers should have a mother's sense of responsibility, duty, sacrifice and tolerance. Teachers should have greater knowledge of psychology. The children may forget the face of such teachers later; the teachers too may forget those children whom they taught affectionately. The tap root and foundation are not seen. But everybody should realize that trees and bungalows stand tall only because of them. The strength of the tap root and foundation makes the children's future strong; turns them into warriors in the battlefield of examinations. That is why Hon'ble Prime Minister has titled this book 'Exam Warriors' or *'Paritchaikku Bayamaen'* (Why fear exams). The suggestions strewn all over the book are easy to understand. It is laudable that all the information found in the book is such as to give a sense of confidence to students to take on the Central and State competitive examinations with ease, to free them from the stress created by the fear of taking examinations and to endow them with the confidence that they can do well in the examinations.

Why did the need arise for the Executive Head of India to write such a book? In the introduction of the book, he himself has clearly stated the reason. Just like a mother who pacifies a child that is afraid of the examination, encourages it and sends it to the examination, the Prime Minister of India encourages all the children of India, disciplines them and prepares them for examinations. This only reflects his interest in the children and youth of India. India has a lot of youth power. If the youth are shown the right path, India will become the leader of the world very shortly. This is what Hon'ble Prime Minister has conveyed through this book. A Country's future is shaped only in its classrooms. In general, we learn a lot but understand less and act lesser. If this situation is to change, we have to imbibe the mantras underlined by the Hon'ble Prime Minister in this book. Learning should be for life; not for examinations alone. That is true education, says our Prime Minister.

Valluvar says that knowledge protects one from destruction - *'Arivu Attram kaakkum karuvi'*. Education should protect us; it should help us progress. Education should not threaten students. Hon'ble Prime Minister of India emphasizes this in many places. Even as the magnetic needle always points towards the North, a student's mind should integrate with the spirit of learning learning during the age of learning. Only that education which lasts should be considered as the best education. Education should invest one with knowledge and experience. If it helps only to score more marks, it is of no use, says our Prime Minister. People don't go to a doctor for treatment based on the marks he scored in medical college. A lawyer is not approached for a solution to our problems on the basis of the marks he scored in law college. Marks are one thing, intelligence another. I consider the Hon'ble Prime Minister's assertion that marks are not a yardstick of one's intelligence, as the thought of an excellent educationist.

‘Imparting multi-faceted education, the level of this world should be raised,’ is the Prime Minister’s aim. This book stresses that the highest importance should be given to computer education, physical education and technology to ensure security of life, growth and strength.

Each of us should understand the fact that, “We lose one day if the cooking is bad. We lose one year if the harvest is bad. We lose the whole duration of life if education is bad.” Each one of us should understand this. Education should speak the art of maintaining a healthy physique; it should sow culture and discipline in the heart; it should instill honesty into our blood; the triad of love, ahimsa and peace should be in our thought and action. This book which says that only such as education is the best education is a guide for life; it should nestle in the hands of students, its instructions should pervade their hearts.

Examinations are to be welcomed with a cheerful face. Examinations should be celebrated as a festival and enjoyed. As we plan and make arrangements for a festival, so should we be ready for the examinations. If you are tense while taking an examination, you may even miss writing the answers you know clearly. Examination hints like these, have been received well by students and I know the author of the book, Hon’ble Prime Minister of India is being showered with praise from all over the world. On this triumph, I wholeheartedly congratulate the Hon’ble Prime Minister.

I wish to point out Hon’ble Prime Minister’s advice in this book on the role of parents in the field of education. Only parents know more about their children. To the extent possible, parents should try to explain to their children the connection between what they study in school and its usefulness in life. The first guide to children are their parents. Parents should carefully observe every development of the child. Every parent has the duty of making the educational dreams of their children come true. Such rare viewpoints are recorded very clearly in this book. Parents should not remain aloof from children’s education as if they have nothing to do with it. Parents should read their children’s text books. It is very essential to know how to find answers to questions rather than knowing answers to all the questions in the books. If the learning activity of children fails to progress at a particular point, parents can encourage them to take up some games to remove the dullness. Yoga, which improves concentration should be taken up. Parents should train children to take care of themselves. Every parent should show their children the way to mental and physical health. The parent is the first teacher; the teacher is the second parent. The parent’s life is the best text book to their children. Parents should spend more time with children. During examinations, parents’ patronage, support and closeness is very, very important. Hon’ble Prime Minister who advises parents with such gems like an expert psychologist deserves great praise and congratulations. I wish to point out here with pride and happiness that the Tamil Nadu Education Department is a repository of all the ideas and suggestions made by Hon’ble Prime Minister in this book. At a time when the field of education is facing changes at extraordinary speed, Hon’ble Prime Minister wants the level of education in our Country to rise so to withstand global competition. I make the assurance that the Tamil Nadu Education Department will certainly fulfill Hon’ble Prime Minister’s desire. While giving importance to Higher Education, the Tamil Nadu Education Department gives greater importance to the basic education. If we are a model to other States in education, it is

due to the revolution brought about by Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma in the field.

Hon'ble Amma's Government is implementing many schemes on the lines of Hon'ble Amma, for improving student enrollment in schools and to reduce the incidence of drop outs with the view that the economic condition of the students' families should not be a hindrance to their education. Hon'ble Amma's Government has brought about reforms to reduce stress in students and parents in regard to joining schools and writing examinations. I wish to mention a few of them:

1. The highest allotment of Rs.27,205.88 crore has been made for the Department of Education.

2. The schedule of Public Examination dates and the dates of publication of results for the students of 10th, 11th and 12th classes are announced in advance.

3. The practice of announcing grades in Government Public Examinations has been dispensed with.

4. Public Examination for 11th standard students has been introduced.

5. Examination results are sent to students in 2 minutes through SMS.

6. Training is given in 412 centres for entrance examinations to medical and engineering courses.

7. Tri-semester is implemented to reduce the book load.

So, the list goes on.

The enrollment in primary classes and in upper primary classes has risen to 99.86 and 99.22 per cent on account of the variety of efforts put in by Hon'ble Amma and Hon'ble Amma's Government. I assure you that the enrollment rate will reach 100 per cent shortly.

I am happy to say that the only Government that gives everything free to a child from womb to schooling is Hon'ble Amma's Government: financial assistance under Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy Maternity scheme is provided to pregnant woman, Amma Babycare Kit is given on the birth of a child and free education is imparted from the primary to higher secondary schools.

Puratchi Thalaivi Amma said, " Childhood is a period of playfully hopping around with joy like a butterfly. It is a time when one should go to school and learn. It is our duty to find out the talents of children, develop those talents, protect children's rights and nurture children with care." As this idea and the one stressed by Hon'ble Prime Minister through this book are similar, we realise that the views of these two leaders in respect of education revolve around the development of children. Hence, I give the assurance that Hon'ble Amma's Government will take all steps to keep children happy, help them learn happily without any mental tension, rise up in life and also raise the Country's stock.

This rare book, published in English under the title 'Exam Warriors' has come out in Tamil in an excellent manner under the title *'Paritchaikku Bayamaen'* (Why fear exams). The writing style is simple in both the books and is easily understandable to all. Colourful cartoons in page after page of the book will attract the youth and children. I feel happy and congratulate the Hon'ble Prime Minister once again for the publication of this excellent book that is a life-guide with the central theme, 'Let us perform and grow through our performance'. It is applicable to the world's youth. I also congratulate the Alliance Company for bringing out this book in Tamil in an excellent way.

Vaazhga Anna Namam! Valarga Puratchi Thalaivarin Pugazh! Thodarga Amma Avargalin Porkaala Aatchi!.

Nandri; Vanakkam.

Hon'ble Chief Minister vows to stand by farmers and the poor

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami after declaring open Amma Gym in Anuppur Panchayat, Ayodhyapattinam Panchayat Union, Salem District on 01.09.2018 (English Translation).

Bowing to Goddess Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma,

When I came here, a good reception was given to me on behalf of the party. Union party Secretary who is presiding over this pleasant function, Amma Peravai Secretary and former State Co-operative Bank President Thiru. R. Elangovan, Sankagiri MLA Thiru. Raja, Omalur MLA Thiru. Vetrivel, Veerapandi MLA sister Manonmani, Executives of the party discharging different responsibilities, Member of Parliament Thiru. Kamaraj, Village party executives of this region, Ladies, Farmers, Workers, Students, Government employees, I offer my humble respects to all of you.

Physical exercise is very important for the youth to keep the body strong and for senior citizens to lead a healthy life. Amma Park and Amma Gym have been declared open now. Amma park is airy and has good sanitation. Senior citizens can make use of the park for leading a healthy life by walking here in the mornings and evenings. Likewise, Amma Gym has been set up in the village for the youth to keep their bodies strong through physical exercises, lead a healthy life and develop sports skills. I wish to point out that Amma Parks and Amma Gyms that contribute to the healthy life of poor students, the youth and elders from ordinary families in villages, have been set up in all places.

Many works are being executed at a level that will make our District a model District. Though there are 32 Districts, I, as one belonging to our District, am standing before you as the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. The responsibility of being the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

has been given to me through the blessings of Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, God's grace and with your love and support. A Chief Minister's visit to a village is very rare. I have already visited this region several times. As for Yercaud Assembly Constituency I have visited all the places - the mountainous areas, Villages in the foothills and Town Panchayat areas. When I was Highways Minister in Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's rule in 2011, I laid all these roads in an excellent way. When I arrived here, Members of Agricultural Associations placed many demands. They are all under the Government's consideration.

The goal of Amma's Government is that the livelihood of rural people should improve and they should be provided all the basic facilities fully. Amma Government's plan is to make available to the marginalized and poor people in rural areas, all the basic amenities enjoyed by urban people and boost their livelihood. Being a villager and a farmer engaged in agriculture, even today. I know the difficulties faced by farmers. I know how difficult the profession of agriculture is. In no other works do so many difficulties crop up. The agriculture labourer faces both the hot sun and the pouring rain. The sweat that the farmer sheds on the field is akin to his blood. Amma's Government will for ever support such farmers, devise schemes for the welfare of such farmers who work wonders with the help of God. Farmers in all regions should develop. The Country will flourish only if farmers flourish. Amma's Government will usher in such a reign of prosperity.

Idaya Deivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma implemented innumerable schemes for the development of Villages, for fulfilling all the needs of rural people, for developing the economy, for providing road facility and for school students. She brought about a revolution, a renaissance in education so that students from poor families in rural areas can reach great heights in life. Amma's Government follows that path. Amma's Government has distributed at no cost footwear to students, text books, note books, school bags, bicycles to go to school and laptops for imbibing scientific education. No other State in India has done this. Amma's Government safeguards both agriculture and education as its two eyes. I wish to state that Amma's Government will continue to exert itself for the development of these two sectors.

All sectors are developing today. The State shines as the best in the agriculture sector. Amma's Government got the National Award for achieving the highest foodgrain production at the All-India Level. In all sectors, we are in the forefront. It is Amma's Government that fulfills all the needs of the people. My goal is to remove all the difficulties of the people; Amma's Government will toil for that. Stating that Amma's Government will continue to work for improving the livelihood of the poor and oppressed people and for meeting the needs of rural people, I thank all the good hearts for according me an excellent reception, I take leave of you.

Nandri! Vanakkam!

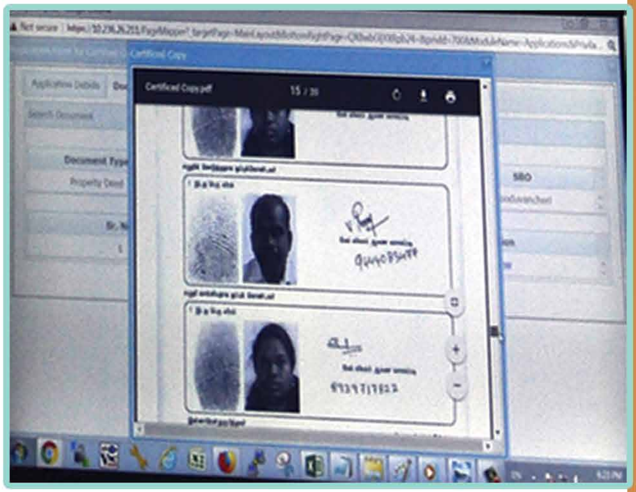
STAR 2.0 for transparency and speed in the process of registration

A web-based Integrated STAR 2.0 system (Simplified and Transparent Administration of Registration) was inaugurated by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami on 12.02.2018.

The aim of the system is to make registration simple and transparent. Under it, documents are registered on 'first in, first out' basis. Printing the time and date of documents in the receipts, giving refusal letter for non-registration of document and the reason for the denial, providing information to clients about the status of documents through SMS and about the action taken on the document are other features. All these details can be known from the web portal, which ensures transparency in the entire operation.

As a next move, Government orders connected with the Registration Department, circulars, and press releases of the Department are available under the column circulars in the web portal of the Department, to enable the public to have an easy and quick access.

Through this site, the public can find separate heads like stamp charge for the registration, guideline value, prevention of registration of fake documents, power of attorney, land category 47A and other particulars. If the public wants any document, it can be downloaded. The Department will upload the important Government orders, circulars and press releases immediately for the benefit of the public.



Make advertisement films on the environment, reap rich awards

Tamil Nadu have 8,000 NGC-eco clubs functioning at the rate of 250 schools per District and around 40-50 students enrolled as member per school. Further in Tamil Nadu 11,469 eco-clubs are functioning under the State funding. One among the objective for the creation of the Department of Environment is dealing with the task of promoting environmental awareness in the State. Inculcating awareness among students and public on the protection of Environment is very much essential, as several unplanned and un-civilized activities, have created severe damage to the human and the ecosystem around us. The students of Eco-clubs/ NGC are involved in disseminating various environmental aspects through awareness programmes such as organizing rallies, human chains, seminars, workshops, tree planting, campus cleaning, etc. However making use of the popular latest versatile, easily accessible media power have not yet been captured to reach even the unreached besides lake of motivation advertisement non-capitalization of the skill of the current generation. Moreover, piece meal making of video films found not only expensive but also do not capitalize the talents of the younger generation.

Hon'ble Minister for Environment Announcement 2018-2019, to create awareness from public go for Best Advertisement Film contest on Environmental Protection, over any topic/theme on land, air, water, forest, industrial activities, flora, fauna etc., and fit for telecasting in the public media, through advertisement Ad-Films invited from Producer/ Film Director/ Institutions/Individual via CD/DVD/PenDrive on or before 15.12.2018.

The Best first three ad-films will be selected and will be given a Cash prize of Rs.7 lakh, Rs.6 lakh & Rs.5 lakh respectively besides certificates by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu in an appropriate forum.

1. The ad-film should be produced in the State focusing the environmental related issues of the State.

2. The Director of Environment will have the legitimate ownership of the ad-films received for awards.

3. The selected and un-selected ad-films for the awards will not be returned to the producers and no royalty will be given.

4. The Department of Environment will have the right to make any change/modification/ alteration in the ad-films, as deemed fit and necessary, without the consent of the producer.

5. The producer should edit/modify the film, as requested by the Department of Environment, if necessary, if the said film is considered for telecasting.

6. The name of the producer will be indicated while telecasting the ad-film in the public media.

7. The theme/idea/topic of the ad-film should be of the producer and should not be copied or remake of the others. If any objection or complaint is received, in this regard, it is the liability of the producer to prove the truth that the ad-film is of his own product.

8. One can produce and submit any number of ad-films within the time-limit.

9. The personalities, if any, in the ad-films should not be controversial person from Tamil Nadu.

10. The ad-films should be produced in the Tamil language only.

11. The theme/topic/idea of the ad-film should not contrary or criticize the Government programmes /policies.

12. A Juries of selection will be formed and the Member of the Juries will select the awardees. The verdict of the members of the Juries is final and any request for reconsideration is not allowed.

13. Copies of the ad-films will be hosted in the media, official websites of Department of Environment and others and also be sent to NGC & Eco-club schools for telecasting in the school functions, prayer meetings, etc.

14. Ad-Film for the awards should be reach this Directorate on or before 15th December 2018.

Director
Department of Environment
Ground Floor, Panagal Building
Saidapet, Chennai-600 015
Phone-044-24336421
Email: tndoe@tn.nic.in
Website: www.environment.tn.nic.in

111th Birth Anniversary of Pasumpon Muthuramalinga Thevar

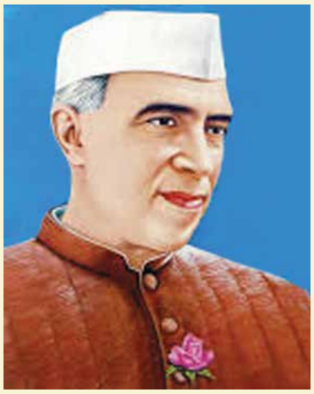
In connection with the 111th Birth Anniversary of Pasumpon Muthuramalinga Thevar, Hon’ble Ministers, MPs, MLAs and high Government officials paid floral tribute to a portrait, kept near his statue on Anna Salai, Nandanam, Chennai on 30.10.2018.

Binding the visually challenged to the mainstream

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami at the Secretariat on 14.09.2018, handed over appointment orders to 42 visually challenged persons, who completed training in book binding in the Government ITI, Poonamallee, as Junior Book Binders in the Government Presses of the Stationery and Printing Department.

The Stationary and Printing Department, apart from providing standard forms, registers, books related to various Departments, birth and death certificates, election forms, National census registry, is also procuring new sophisticated machines, spare parts and papers and recruits employees for the Government Presses, situated in the State. It is significant to mention that 12 per cent of the total employees in the Department are Differently-abled persons.

As visually challenged people who have completed training in book binding are finding it difficult to get jobs, especially in private presses, the Government issued orders relaxing the rules for the appointment of the 42 visually challenged people.



Birth anniversary of Jawaharlal Nehru - November 14

Golden words

"Without that passion and urge, there is a gradual oozing out of hope and vitality, a settling down on lower levels of existence, a slow merging into non-existence. We become prisoners of the past and some part of its immobility sticks to us."

- Jawaharlal Nehru, The Discovery of India

Five hostel buildings opened for BC, MBC, Minority students

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami at the Secretariat on 14.09.2018, declared open 5 hostel buildings and one additional hostel building, constructed at a total cost of Rs.8.33 crore, in Chennai, Tiruvallur, Sivagangai, Thanjavur and Madurai Districts, for the students of the Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Minority welfare schools and colleges.

To prevent students belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Minority Communities from dropping out in the middle of their academic career and for their educational and social advancement, the Tamil Nadu Government, treading the path of the Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, has been distributing educational assistance and constructing new school buildings and hostels.

In this connection, the following buildings were opened. At Tondiarpet in Chennai, a hostel building for Backward Classes college students, built at a cost of Rs.3.62 crore, to accommodate 100 students;

In Pazhaverkadu in Tiruvallur District, a hostel building with residential facility for school students of the backward classes, built at a cost of Rs.90 lakh, to accommodate 50 school students;

A hostel building for school students of the Most Backward Classes, constructed at a cost of Rs.82 lakh at Kirungakottai in Sivagangai District;

At Tiruvidaimaruthur in Thanjavur District, a hostel building for school students of the Most Backward Classes, built at a cost of Rs.80 lakh to accommodate 50 school students;

In Madurai District, Madurai East, Sathamangalam, a hostel building with residential facility, constructed at a cost of Rs.1.45 crore for school girls of the minority communities, to accommodate 100 girl students; an additional hostel building at Sathamangalam for school students of the Backward Classes, built at a cost of Rs.55 lakh, to accommodate 120 students.

Road over-bridge near Tiruppur old bus-stand to decongest traffic

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami at the Secretariat on 14.09.2018, declared open a road over-bridge near Tiruppur Old Bus stand, constructed at a cost of Rs.43 crore on behalf of the Highways and Small Ports Department.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister, through video conferencing, also threw open for public use 8 river bridges, a Highway Home and a road safety speed breaker in Kancheepuram, Tiruvallur, Thanjavur, Dharmapuri, Namakkal, Erode, Coimbatore and Chennai Districts, built at a cost of Rs.40.15 crore.

Realizing the importance of infrastructure in the socio-economic development of a State, the Tamil Nadu Government, following the path of Hon'ble Amma, has been taking steps to increase the capacity of roads to meet the increasing volume of traffic and to ensure safe travel by constructing new bridges throughout the State, setting up quality roads and bridges, wherever necessary.

In this connection, to ease traffic congestion in Tiruppur Corporation, the road over-bridge near Tiruppur Old Bus stand and Dharapuram Road Junction and on the Avinashi-Tiruppur-Palladam-Pollachi-Cochin (via) Meenkarai Road was opened for public use by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

The new over-bridge will benefit the public in Veerapandi, Nallur, Mannarai, Palayakkadu, Chandrapuram, Karuvampalayam, Royapuram, Chettipalayam, Kumar Nagar and Velampalayam areas and Ganapathipalayam, Arulpuram, Iduvai, Iduvampalayam, Ugayanur, Karaipudur and Nochchipalayam areas.

The other works inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister are :

A bridge near Sadras in Kancheepuram District, constructed at a cost of Rs.8.67 crore

on the Sadras-Chengalpattu- Kancheepuram-Arakkonam-Tiruttani Road and a road safety speed breaker on the East Coast Road, at a cost of Rs.82 lakh;

A bridge on the Kosasthalaiyaru between Guruvayal and Azhinjipakkam Villages, constructed at a cost of Rs.13 crore; a bridge at a cost of Rs.7.41 crore at Nambivayal Village on the Tirukattupalli-Sengipatti–Pattukkotai Road; a bridge at A.Pallipattu village in Dharmapuri District built at a cost of Rs.2 crore, and a bridge at Sillankadu in Namakkal District, at a cost of Rs.1.82 crore;

Bridges at Perumpallam Village (cost of Rs.2.20 crore) and at Kombanaipudur (Rs.1.98 crore) both in Erode District and another bridge on the Reddiarmadam-Andiyur Road (Rs.1.50 crore) in Coimbatore District.

A Highways Home at Highways Research Institute at Guindy in Chennai built at a cost of Rs.55 lakh.

Help sought to free fishermen detained by Iran Coast Guard

Text of the D.O. letter dated 05.10.2018 of **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami,** Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu addressed to **Shri Narendra Modi,** Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

I wish to bring to your kind notice that 5 fishermen from Ramanathapuram District and 1 fisherman from Thoothukudi District of Tamil Nadu, who are operating from the fishing base of Dubai in United Arab Emirates were apprehended and detained by the Iranian Coast Guard on 01.09.2018 and have taken them to Kish Island alleging that they have violated the Iranian Maritime boundaries.

The apprehended fishermen were reportedly detained in the fishing boat for more than a month. It is also reported that their essential supplies have exhausted and they do not have access to basic amenities. Further many of the detained fishermen's Visas are also expiring in a couple of months.

The prolonged incarceration of these poor fishermen, who went abroad for earning their livelihood, would severely affect the morale and survival of their families and dependents in India.

The families of these detained fishermen are anxious and worried about the safety of the fishermen. Hence, I request your personal intervention and instruct the Ambassador of India in Tehran to provide them essential supplies immediately and to take legal measures to secure the immediate release of these poor innocent fishermen from Tamil Nadu.

Auditing Assistant Inspectors selected by TNPSC appointed

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, at the Secretariat on 14.09.2018, as the event of handing over appointment letters for 215 candidates, selected by the Tamil Nadu Public Services Commission for the post of Assistant Inspectors in the Local Fund Audit Department and Statutory Boards Audit Department, gave away appointment orders to 7 candidates.

The Local Fund Audit Department audits the accounts of Town and Rural Local Bodies, Universities, Agricultural Marketing Societies, Local Library Authorities and other institutions based on rules framed for those institutions. The Statutory Boards Audit Department audits the accounts of Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. Nutritious Noon Meal Programme, Agricultural Extension Centers, organizations dealing with weights and measures, Tamil Nadu Text Book and Educational Services Corporation. For the smooth functioning of the Local Fund Audit and Statutory Boards Audit Departments, steps are being taken to fill the vacancies in those Departments.

In continuation of these measures, for the year 2014-2015 and 2015-2016, the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission selected 215 Assistant Inspectors for the Local Fund Audit and Statutory Boards Audit Department, which functions under the Finance Department, through direct recruitment. Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, as a mark of handing over appointment orders to 215 candidates, gave away the orders to 7 candidates.

Seventeen sub-stations set up at Rs.495.87 crore opened

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami declared open a 230/110-33 KW and 110/11 KW (Gas Insulated) sub-station at Porur at a cost of Rs.245.25 crore, from the Secretariat on 14.09.2018, through video conferencing. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also inaugurated 16 sub-stations in 14 Districts which was set up at a cost of Rs.250.62 crore.

As it is necessary to set up additional sub-stations to prevent power loss during transit, reduce the maintenance cost of power and provide optimum electricity at the correct voltage to all areas, the Tamil Nadu Government, treading the path of the Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, has been setting up new and upgraded power sub-stations throughout the State, wherever necessary.

With this view, the Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami inaugurated the Porur Sub-station in Chennai. The other sub-stations inaugurated by him are:

230/110 KW Sub-station (Gas insulated) at Central in Chennai; 110/33/11 KW Sub-station at Mallankinaru in Virudhunagar District; 110/33 KW Sub-station (Ratio basis) at Ezhumalai in Madurai District; 110/33 KW Sub-station at Mampatti and Solaikottai 33/11 KW both in Dharmapuri District; 110/33 KW Sub-station (Ratio basis) in Sivagiri in Erode District; 33/11 KW Sub-station in Ranganathapuram in Karur District; 33/11 KW Sub-station in Araiyalam in Tiruvannamalai District and 33/11 KW Sub-stations in Rettanai in Villupuram District; Sirupakkam in Cuddalore District; Karivedu in Vellore District; Rastha in Tirunelveli District; E.B Colony in Thanjavur; Old Kandharvakottai and Vallavari in Pudukkottai District and Velankanni in Nagapattinam District.

Totally 17 sub-stations, set up at a cost of Rs.495.87 crore, were declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

Hon'ble Chief Minister opens 121 Police quarters at Madurai Armed Battalion complex

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru.Edappadi K.Palaniswami, on 14.09.2018, on behalf of the Home Department, at the Secretariat declared open 121 Police quarters at Madurai Armed Battalion Complex, constructed at a cost of Rs. 16.35 crore, through video conferencing. In addition, the Hon'ble Chief Minister also declared open 88 quarters, one Police Station, 5 buildings for the Police Department and 2 Fire and Rescue Service Stations, all constructed at a total cost of Rs.28.27 crore.

Police have been performing important duties, such as maintenance of law and order, establishing peace in the State, preventing crimes, and apprehending criminals and getting them proper punishment. To provide the right climated and the best facilities to the police force to improve their quality of services, the Tamil Nadu Government, following the path of the Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, has been providing various facilities to the police forces.

These include construction of new Police Stations, Quarters for personnel, improving the infrastructure of the Police Department Offices and providing additional vehicles to the Department to improve patrolling.

In this connection, Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami declared open the 121 tenements at the Madurai Armed Battalion Complex in Madurai District.

In addition, the following buildings were opened at a cost of Rs.10.72 crore: 50 police quarters at Manali in Chennai, 32 police quarters at Kangeyam in Tiruppur District, 6 tenements at Kazhugumalai in Thoothukudi District, were built;

A Police Station at R.S.Mangalam in Ramanathapuram District, costing Rs.63.25 lakh;

In Chennai, an administrative building for the Joint Commissioner of Police (North) at Tondiarpet and Community Welfare Centre for Police at New Washermenpet; administrative building for the Armed Battalion in Karur and District Police Office and administrative building for the Armed Battalion in Tiruppur – at a total cost Rs.15.47 crore for 5 buildings;

Two Fire and Rescue Service Stations at Denkanikottai in Krishnagiri District and Palacode in Dharmapuri District, at a total cost Rs. 1.44 crore;

On the whole, buildings for the Police Department and Fire and Rescue Service Department, built at a cost of Rs. 44.61 crore, were declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister. ■

Minister shows Hon'ble Chief Minister bunch of awards won by Tamil Nadu

Hon'ble Minister for Municipal Administration, Rural Development and Implementation of Special Programme, Thiru. S.P.Velumani on 14.09.2018 met the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.Edappadi K.Palaniswami, at the Secretariat and showed three State Awards won by the State, under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. 2 District Awards presented to Tiruvannamalai and Thanjavur Districts under Mahatma Gandhi Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme and an Award presented to Thoothukudi District for implementing 7 important schemes in an exemplary manner at the National level under Gram Swaraj Abhiyan Scheme and received the Hon'ble Chief Minister's greetings.

At the award distribution ceremony, held at the National level at Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi on 11.09.2018 by the Central Government, the Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development, Thiru. S.P.Velumani received the awards on behalf of Tamil Nadu from the Union Minister for Rural Development, Panchayat Raj and Mining, Thiru. Narendra Singh Tomar. The State won National Awards for 2017-2018 for timely payment of wages for MGNREGA beneficiaries and payment of compensation for delay in payment of wages, best initiatives in Geo-MGNREGA applications and in performance in linking Aadhaar with bank accounts in payment of wages, two District Awards one each to Tiruvannamalai and Thanjavur District for effective implementation of MGNREGA and District Award at the National level for Thoothukudi District for exemplary implementation of 7 important schemes with self-sufficiency.

This is the first time that Tamil Nadu has received 3 State-level Awards in one year at the National level for effective implementation of MGNREGS.

Heirs of Sterlite protest victims thank Hon'ble Chief Minister for jobs

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, on 27.09.2018, at the Secretariat handed over appointment orders to the legal heirs of 10 persons who died in police firing during the anti-Sterlite agitation in Thoothukudi, 5 persons who suffered serious injuries and 4 heirs of persons who suffered serious injuries (totally 19 persons) in Revenue and Disaster Management Department, Social Service and Nutritious Meals Implementation Department, on compassionate grounds.

As per the announcement made by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 27.05.2018, a cheque of Rs.20 lakh to those who died in police firing in the anti-Sterlite agitation in Thoothukudi District on 22.05.2018 and 23.05.2018, Rs.5 lakh to those who suffered serious injuries and Rs.1.5 lakh to those who suffered minor injuries from the Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund, were issued. The Chief Minister also announced on the occasion that legal heirs of those deceased would be given jobs on compassionate grounds.

Following this, the Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami handed over appointment orders to the heirs of the deceased at the Secretariat on 27.09.2018 and also consoled them.

The beneficiaries, who received the appointment orders, expressed their thanks to the Hon'ble Chief Minister for providing the financial assistance, relief measures, medical help and jobs to their families.

Birth Anniversary of Veeramamunivar - November 08

An Evangelist who excelled in Tamil poetry

Veeramamunivar is a great Tamil scholar who rendered yeoman service to the Tamil language. He was born on November 8, 1680 in Castiglione in Europe. His parents named him Constantine Joseph Beschi. He had his early education in his small town. He later went to a nearby big town to study literature and grammar and later psychology. He was a multi-linguist and learnt Italy, Latin, Greek, French, Hebrew and Portuguese.

In 1709, he became a full-fledged priest and got permission from his Superior General to work in India, who sent him to Madurai for religious work. On May 8, 1711, he took over as the head of the Madurai Mission.

He changed his name into Dhairiyanathar which in pure Tamil is Veeramamunivar. He learnt Tamil and adopted the native Tamilian lifestyle in his life and missionary work. This helped him to know the greatness of the Tamil language and began to love the language.

After learning that a Christian Sabha in Aavoor in Thondai region was doing extremely well, he went there to help one Michael, who was doing religious work. At that time there was a war between Thanjavur forces and Islamic army in the year 1792.

Veeramamunivar met the Islamic Chief Chanda Sahib and appealed to him not to harass innocent people. Chanda Sahib accepted the request of Veeramamunivar and thereafter he moved in a friendly manner with him. Realizing the intelligence of Veeeramamunivar, Chanda Sahib gave him the title Ismas Sanniyasi, meaning Pure Priest.

Veeramamunivar wanted to write poetry of the class of Kamba Ramayanam and Jivaka Chinthamani. Making Jesus's father Susaiappar the hero of the poem, he composed a verse titled Thembavani, known in Tamil as unfading garland.

Bishop Caldwell, who was also a known Tamil scholar, after going through Thembavani said that it is one of the four greatest epics in Tamil. Thembavani was first presented in the Madurai Tamil Sangam and got the recognition of Tamil scholars.

Apart from Thembavani, Veeramamunivar also composed other minor poetical works in Tamil. These include Thirukaavalur Kalambagam, Kitheriammal Ammanai and Adaikalanayagi Venba. He created a Tamil-Latin Lexicon called Chathuragarathi.

Veeramamunivar also excelled in writing prose works. His Adventures of Paramartha Guru was very popular and was later translated into English, French, German, Telugu and Kannada. He also translated the first two sections of the Thirukkural (Aram, Porul) into Latin.

Veeramamunivar, who rendered excellent service to Tamil is called a great son of the language. In recognition of his services to the language, the Tamil Nadu Government erected his statue on the Marina.

Rs. 38 crore allotted for new bus-stand at Kilkathirpur, work to commence

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** on 15.09.2018 at a Government function at Kancheepuram Collectorate *(English Translation)*.

Bowing to Goddess Hon'ble Amma,

Kancheepuram District Collector Thiru. Ponniah who has delivered the welcome address in this excellent function organized at the office complex of the Collector to declare open a public relations centre, multi-purpose auditorium and new buildings, to lay foundation for new buildings and to distribute Government welfare assistance, Hon'ble Minister for Revenue and Disaster Management Thiru. R.B. Udhayakumar, who in his short address gave out brilliant ideas, Hon'ble Minister for Rural Industries Thiru. P.Benjamin, a servant of the people who participates in all the functions held in this District and who has delivered the 'munnilai' address here, Tmt. Amudha I.A.S., who is gracing this function, Respected Member of Parliament Tmt. Maragatham Kumaravel, former Ministers Thiru. Somasundaram and Thiru. Vaigai

Selvan, former Members of Parliament Kanchi Panneerselvam and Chitlapakkam Rajendran, former Members of Legislative Assembly Respected Walajabad Ganesan, Respected Mythili Thirunavukkarasu, Respected J. Balaji, Respected Venkataraman, Respected Thirukazhukundram Arumugam, High officials of the Government, Party Executives, former Representatives of Local Bodies, Executives of Co-operatives, Government employees, Elders, Ladies, Beneficiaries who will receive the Welfare Assistance, Newspaper and Media Friends - I offer my humble respects to all of you.

I am extremely happy to participate in this function, held immediately after the 110th birth anniversary function of Perarignar Anna at his birthplace of Kanchi city.

Kancheepuram District is known for silk weaving industry. This District is called Temple District. After Perarignar Anna became the Chief Minister, he made Kancheepuram, his birthplace, as the capital of the District. From July 1, 1968, Kancheepuram became the headquarters of Chengalpattu District.

As many holy cities are located on the banks of rivers, Kancheepuram too is on the banks of Vegavathy river and this adds a speciality to this city. Of the holy places sung by Nayanmaars and Aazhvaars, Kancheepuram is an important one. Saints Appar, Sundarar and Sambandar have sung songs on Kancheepuram Ekambareswarar. In his Thiruvasagam, saint Manickavasagar sang about this holy place.

Tourist spots like Mamallapuram, Vandalur Arignar Anna Zoological Park and

Vedanthangal Bird sanctuary add greater glory to this District.

Silk sarees manufactured here are famous all over the world. Weavers who have woven silk sarees for generations live here. They add a speciality to Kancheepuram. Kancheepuram is the favourite destination of women for the purchase of silk sarees.

Not giving ear to the words of knaves, but discerning things with a rationalist mind, Perarignar Anna lived purposefully so as to serve the people and remains till date, even after his demise, a leader adored by millions.

The golden saying of Perarignar Anna is: "The tax paid by people should be used for their welfare. Be with the people; move with them; live with them. Plan for them and take action for them. Go to the people and perform." Accordingly, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. carried out Perarignar Anna's policies to the greatest extent possible. In the footsteps of Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R., Hon'ble Amma and Hon'ble Amma's Government that functions in her path, have been serving the State with people's welfare as the sole goal.

Hon'ble Amma's Government has taken many important decisions on different issues ever since it took over the administration, to protect people's interests. I wish to mention a few of them.

• A legal solution was found to the Cauvery Issue;

• Orders obtained to set up AIIMS hospital at Madurai;

• Tamil Nadu continues to be a power surplus State;

• National Food Safety Act is being implemented;

• Steps have been taken to connect small cities by air;

• Joining the Uday scheme, the Tamil Nadu Government has taken over the burden of loan of TN Electricity Generation and Distribution

Corporation and is reducing it, in a gradual manner;

• Sanctioning production of 'Neera' juice to improve the livelihood of coconut farmers;

• Many subsidy schemes for agriculturists;

• Introduction of 'kudimaramathu' scheme to protect soil fertility and maintain water bodies;

• Construction of bridges and providing road facilities at many places all over Tamil Nadu ;

• Implementation of housing programme for the poor and own houses for people in urban areas;

In this way, Amma's Government is implementing many schemes now. I wish to inform that an announcement has been made for banning the use of plastic and it will come into force from January next year.

Also, I wish to state some of the achievements recorded in this District.

Rs.38 crore has been allotted to fulfill the long-standing demand of the people of this District for construction of a new bus-stand at Kilkathirpur village and construction work is to commence.

Following my announcement that 7 check dams will be constructed in this District to prevent rain water going into the sea, steps are being taken for their construction. Amma's Government is taking this step as it feels that not a single drop of rain water should be wasted but stored.

In the office complex of Kancheepuram District Collector, a 'Public Relations Centre' with a seating capacity of 300 has been set up at a cost of Rs.2 crore for conducting Grievances Day.

Rural Health Training Centres will be set up at a cost of Rs.1.14 crore at Thiruppukuzhi and Madhuramangalam; a Mother-Infant Care ward will be set up at a cost of Rs.20 crore at the Kancheepuram District Headquarters Government Hospital.

For the first time in Tamil Nadu, a linear accelerator, cobalt treatment unit and CT Scan equipment, costing Rs.23 crore will be supplied to the Government Arignar Anna Cancer Hospital.

To bring down the mortality rate due to road accidents in Tamil Nadu, a Tamil Nadu Accident and Emergency Care Initiative will be implemented at the Chengalpattu Government Medical College Hospital at a cost of Rs.20 crore. Accidents occur often. Hence, in discharging the duty of saving lives when they occur, Amma's Government has allotted Rs.20 crore. Also, a Centre of Excellence for Accident and Emergency Care will be set at the Kancheepuram District Government Headquarters Hospital at a cost of Rs.8.55 crore. The Department of Public Health is to implement many other schemes like these at a cost of Rs.90 crore in Kancheepuram District. As a result of the excellent work by the Department of Public Health, the maternity-infant mortality rate has been brought down greatly. I am happy to state that Tamil Nadu has done a Himalayan feat by achieving 14 years earlier, the standard growth targets to be achieved in the year 2030.

In cadaver transplant surgery, Tamil Nadu has been winning the Central Government Award for 3 years consecutively for being the premier

State. In organ transplant surgery in India, the performance of Tamil Nadu Government Hospitals is excellent. The State Government is executing many good schemes for providing more facilities in Government Hospitals than those available in private sector hospitals for performing surgeries. As a result of the steps taken by the Tamil Nadu Government, the time of the '108' Emergency Ambulance Vehicle for reaching an accident spot has been reduced from 11 minutes to 8.32 minutes. This is on par with the service in developed countries. For rendering faster emergency ambulance service, its travel time has been reduced.

An Upgraded Primary Health Centre will be set up at Paranthur village at a cost of Rs.1.20 crore.

Today, I have declared open 164 completed buildings, constructed at a cost of Rs.34.70 crore which includes a Taluk Office building at Walajabad (Rs.2.61 crore), 9 classrooms, a laboratory, drinking water and toilet facilities and a compound wall in Government Higher Secondary School at Singadivakkam (Rs.1.75 crore) and a fertilizer control laboratory at the office complex of Agriculture Joint Director at Panjupettai (Rs.60 lakh).

I have laid foundation for 101 works, worth Rs.70.65 crore that includes renovation of Kancheepuram and Thiruperumbudur Taluk offices (Rs.6.10 crore), renovation of Perarignar Anna District Games Stadium with modern facilities at Kancheepuram (Rs.14 crore) and a new building for the maternity and child care ward at the Government Headquarters Hospital, Kancheepuram (Rs.18 crore).

Apart from these, I have allotted welfare assistance of various Departments worth Rs.32.26 crore to 6,250 beneficiaries. This includes orders to construct houses under the Chief Minister Green House Scheme with solar panels at a cost of Rs.2.56 crore to benefit 123 persons in 2018-2019; petrol scooter with an additional wheel for 30 differently abled persons and two-wheelers for 300 beneficiaries at a cost of Rs.75 lakh under the Amma Two-Wheeler Distribution Scheme.

From the date of taking over administration by Hon'ble Amma's Government till date, I have inaugurated 42,136 works worth Rs.23,269.16 crore. This is an achievement for Amma's Government; foundation has been laid for 7,598 works worth Rs.19,103.99 crore. Totally, 49,734 works worth Rs.42,373.15 crore are being executed.

To find a permanent remedy for the flood-affected areas of Kancheepuram District, flood prevention works are being carried out in full swing at an estimate of Rs.393 crore through the Departments of Public Works (water resources), Highways, Revenue and Disaster Management, Rural Development, Town Panchayats and Municipal Administration.

During every monsoon season, rain water stagnates at different places, affecting the people. Steps have been taken to identify the flood prone areas and take up preventive works. Respected Tmt. Amudha I.A.S. has been put in charge of this work for this District.

Foundation has also been laid for construction of a new bridge across Adyar at Girugambakkam area at a cost of Rs.5.93 crore through the Department of Rural Development. When the above works are completed, flood damages in Kancheepuram District would have come down greatly.

Stating that Amma's Government will go by Perarignar Anna's policies and will continue to serve the people, I thank all those who have arranged this function.

Vaazhga Anna Naamam; Valarga Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivar avargalin pugazh; Onguga Hon'ble Amma's pugazh; Thodarga Hon'ble Amma's good governance.

Nandri! Vanakkam

Birth Anniversary of Italian Tamil Scholar Veeramamunivar

On the occasion of the Birth Anniversary of Italian Tamil Scholar Veeramamunivar, Hon'ble Ministers, MPs, MLAs and high Government officials paid floral tribute to a portrait, kept near his statue on Kamaraj Salai, Chennai on 08.11.2018

Hon'ble Chief Minister shown cleanliness awards won by six schools in the State

Hon'ble Minister for School Education, Thiru. K.A.Sengottaiyan at the Secretariat on 03.10.2018 showed the National cleanliness awards for six schools in Tamil Nadu, to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, which were earlier handed over to the Hon'ble Minister for Education by the Union Human Resources Minister at a function in New Delhi on 18.09.2018.

The Hon'ble Minister for Education also showed the commendation certificate given to Tamil Nadu by the Central Government for achieving the second place in the Country among States which have won the maximum number of National Cleanliness Awards at the National level.

As per the guidelines of the Human Resources Ministry of the Central Government, since 2014 Clean Bharath and Clean Schools programme has been implemented. In this connection, the Clean School Award at the National level for the year 2017-2018 was held in New Delhi on 18.09.2018. In this function, the selected schools from Tamil Nadu – T.Chellapandipalayam Government High School, Thanthoni Region, Karur District, Kombaithozhu Panchayat Elementary School, Mayiladumparai, Theni District, M.Alampatti Panchayat Union Middle School, Tirupattur, Sivagangai District, Ariyapakkam Panchayat Union Elementary School, Tiruvallur District, E.Avarampatti Government K.R.Government High School, Nilakkottai Region, Dindigul District, Siluvaicheri Panchayat Union Elementary School, Andimadam Region, Ariyalur District, were given the Best Clean School Award by the Union Minister for Human Resources. In addition, the State was given the Commendation Certificate for securing the Second place at the national level among States which have won the maximum number of National Cleanliness Awards.

As per the directions of Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, school uniforms have been changed for students of Government Schools from class 1 to 5 and from class 6 to 8. Government School boys and girl students met the Hon'ble Chief Minister and showed the new uniforms.

As a mark of giving appointment orders to heirs of 42 employees of School Education Department who died while in service, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over appointment orders to 7 beneficiaries for the posts of Junior Assistants based on their education qualification and seniority of registration.

Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurates Rs. 95 crore Madhavaram Suburban Bus Terminus

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami, declared open, from the Secretariat through video conferencing, Rs.95crore Madhavaram Suburban Bus Terminus on behalf of the Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA). The Hon'ble Chief Minister also inaugurated a food grain godown and a shopping complex building at the Wholesale Foodgrains Market Complex in Koyambedu, built at a cost of Rs.21.75 crore on 10.10.2018.

In the 2011-2012 demand for the Housing and Urban Development Department, it was announced in the Assembly that a bus stand would be constructed at Madhavaram on the Calcutta National Highway - Inner Ring Road Junction on an 8 acre site for buses bound North to towns like Tiruvallur, Tirupathi, Kalahasthi and Nellore to decongest the traffic congestion in and around Koyambedu Suburban bus stand, Chennai. As per the announcement, the Madhavaram suburban bus stand was constructed and declared open by Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru.Edappadi K.Palaniswami on 10.10.2018.

The new bus stand has a basement, ground floor and first floor. The basement can accommodate 1,700 two wheelers, the portico 72 cars. In the ground floor of the bus terminus, waiting hall and common bath rooms for passengers, ticket counters, separate room for lactating mothers, restaurants and ATM have been provided. The first floor has emergency medical care facilities and rest rooms for passengers and bus crew.

At a time 42 buses can be operated from the ground floor and sufficient space has been

provided to park 48 buses in the first floor. In addition, a walking path of cement concrete, rain water drainage, drinking water facilities and sewerage treatment plant and high mast electric lamps are also provided. The new bus stand will be of great use to the people in North Chennai.

Construction of the Wholesale Foodgrains Market Complex with all infrastructure has been completed and it is functioning in the Koyambedu Wholesale Market. In the 2014-2015 budget demand for the Housing and Urban Development, it was announced that a godown and a shopping complex for the convenience of traders and the common public, will be constructed in the Wholesale Foodgrains Market Complex. As per the announcement, in the Whole Foodgrains Market, a godown with shops and a shopping complex on a 65,313 sq.ft. area, costing Rs.21.75 crore, was declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

As a token of handing over appointment orders to the heirs of 34 employees of the Tamil Nadu Housing Board who died in harness, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over orders to 7 persons on compassionate grounds for the posts of Junior Assistants, Typists, Technical Assistant and Drivers based on their educational qualifications and seniority of registration.

Hon'ble Chief Minister greets on Navaratri, Ayudha Pooja

Message of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami** on the occasion of Ayudha Pooja and Vijaya Dasami - 17.10.2018 (English Translation)

I extend my warm Ayudha Pooja and Vijaya Dasami greetings to the people on the occasion of Navaratri and Vijaya Dasami being joyously celebrated throughout the country.

The special feature of the Navaratri Festival is that of the nine days during which the festival is celebrated, people worship Durga Devi in the first three days for valour, Lakshmi Devi for the next three days to attain wealth and Saraswathi in the last three days for knowledge, as all these three are essential for upliftment in one's life.

Realizing that 'Work is Worship', people consider the implements they use daily as divinely blessed objects and offer Pooja to them on Ayudha Pooja day, seeking prosperity in their lives and growth in their trade.

As people believe that any action that begins on Vijaya Dasami day will succeed, they celebrate it by admitting their children in a school on this day, or pursue a new endeavour from this day as it will have an auspicious beginning.

I offer my sincere greetings and well wishes to the people of Tamil Nadu, who are celebrating Ayudha Pooja and Vijaya Dasami and seek the blessings of the Divine Mother for them to reap success after success in their endeavours and to have good health.

Hon'ble Chief Minister announces 20% bonus for Government staff

The role of workers in the economic development of the country is very important. The economic development of workers alone will result in balanced economic development, as the hard work of workers plays a major role in improving production and speeding up the economic growth of the country.

Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami announced that Amma's Government, which is following the path of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, with a view in giving recognition to the role played by workers, decided to give Deepavali bonus and ex-gratia for the workers for the year 2017-2018, to help them celebrate the festival with joy.

As per the revised Bonus Act 2015, the salary ceiling eligible for bonus is Rs.21,000 and the monthly salary ceiling for calculation of bonus is Rs.7,000. The Hon'ble Chief Minister in a statement said that he had ordered payment of bonus and ex-gratia for the year 2017-2018 to the workers in the following manner:

Workers and employees of State-owned Public Sector Corporations which have earned profit, will be paid 8.33 per cent as bonus and 11.67 as ex-gratia, totally 20 per cent, taking into consideration the allocable surplus funds, available with the companies.

Workers and employees of the loss-making State-owned Public sector Corporations will get 10 per cent bonus, including 8.33 per cent minimum bonus plus 1.67 per cent ex-gratia.

Eligible workers and employees of the State-owned Tamil Nadu Electricity Board, Government Transport Corporations and Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation will get 20 per cent bonus, including 8.33 per cent bonus and 11.67 per cent ex-gratia;

Employees of the profit-earning cooperative societies, will be paid 20 per cent bonus including bonus and ex-gratia based on the allocable surplus funds. Employees of other cooperative societies will get 8.33 per cent bonus and 1.67 per cent ex-gratia.

Group C and D employees of the Tamil Nadu Housing Board and Chennai Metrowater and Sewerage Board will be given 10 per cent bonus (8.33 per cent bonus and 1.67 per cent ex-gratia) like last year.

Group C and D employees of the Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board will be given 10 per cent bonus (8.33 per cent bonus and 1.67 per cent ex-gratia) like last year.

Eligible workers of the Arasu Rubber Corporation, Tamil Nadu Forest Plantation

Corporation, Tamil Nadu Tea Plantation Corporation, Co-operative and public sector sugar mills, and Tamil Nadu Co-operative Milk Producers Federation will get either 20 per cent bonus (8.33 per cent bonus plus 11.67 per cent ex-gratia) or 10 per cent bonus (8.33 per cent bonus plus 1.67 per cent ex-gratia) depending on the availability of allocable surplus funds of the corporations concerned.

Group C and D employees of the Tamil Nadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation will get 20 per cent bonus (8.33 per cent bonus plus 11.67 per cent ex-gratia)

Group C and D employees of the profit-earning Tamil Nadu Co-operative Housing Societies will get 20 per cent bonus (8.33 per cent bonus plus 11.67 per cent ex-gratia, and the loss-making housing societies 10 per cent bonus (8.33 bonus plus 1.67 per cent ex-gratia).

Apart from these employees, contract workers of the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board will get Rs.4,000, Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation Rs.3,000 and employees of apex co-operative societies and District Co-operative societies will get an ex-gratia of Rs. 3,000 and Rs.2,400 respectively.

Permanent employees, eligible to get bonus, will get a minimum of Rs. 8,400 and a maximum of Rs. 16,800. Bonus to the tune of Rs.488.92 crore will be disbursed as bonus to 3,58,330 workers of the State-owned public sector corporations. The Government's move will help workers of the state-owned corporations to celebrate Deepavali happily. ■

Hon'ble Chief Minister extends Deepavali greetings

Greetings of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** on the occasion of Deepavali on 05.11.2018 (English Translation)

"At this pleasant time when Deepavali festival is being celebrated joyously all over the country, I extend my hearty Deepavali greetings to all the people of Tamil Nadu.

The day on which Lord Thirumal destroyed the cruel demon Narakasuran with the help of his consort Thirumagal is celebrated as Deepavali. The festival shines as a day full of happiness like the lustre of the flame in the lamp and as the day of the birth of a new light after the heart sheds darkness.

On this Day of Lights, people enthusiastically celebrate Deepavali with relatives and friends by taking oil bath early in the morning, wearing new clothes, lighting lamps, worshipping God, exchanging sweets and bursting fire crackers.

I extend my greetings to all on this day, for a life full of happiness, abundance and excellence. Once again, I offer my hearty Deepavali good wishes."

■

Paddy purchase in procurement centres to be fully computerized

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.Edappadi K.Palaniswami on 10.10.2018 launched a new software application for e-procurement of paddy by the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation, developed at a cost of Rs. 7,06,23,000 to computerize the entire paddy purchase in the procurement centres in the State.

Though many inspection checks are in place in the paddy procurement centres in the State, farmers face some difficulties in selling their paddy at the centres. There are complaints that farmers have to wait for a long time in queues in front of the procurement centres and the payment for the paddy is also delayed. To remove these difficulties and to make sale of paddy by farmers easy and to make the farmers get the maximum benefits at the procurement centres, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma announced in the Tamil Nadu Assembly under Rule 110 on 05.08.2016 that e-procurement of paddy would be introduced in all procurement centres.

As per the announcement, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.Edappadi K.Palaniswami launched the software for paddy e-procurement. Through this software, the entire procurement operation by the procurement centres of the Corporation will be computerized.

As per the scheme, all direct procurement centres of the TNCSC will be supplied a Point of Sale (POS) unit each by the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation and totally all the procurement centres of the Corporation will get 2,100 tab printers.

The sale price of paddy will be credited by the TNCSC to the farmers' bank accounts directly, ensuring computerization of the entire procurement operation.

Hon'ble Chief Minister flags off 471 new buses for public use

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, at the Secretariat on 10.10.2018, formally flagged off 471 new buses, purchased at a cost of Rs.126.80 crore, on behalf of various Transport Corporations, for public use.

The Tamil Nadu Government, which is functioning on the path of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, has been operating 21,744 buses daily for a distance of 87.22 lakh kms. through eight Transport Corporations. About 1.80 lakh passengers are travelling in these buses not only in Tamil Nadu but also in neighbouring Puducherry, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh .

Introduction of new buses, inauguration of buses in new routes, construction of new bus depots, administrative buildings and bus bodies, upgraded rest rooms for transport corporation employees, online booking of tickets and free bus passes for school students and for senior citizens in Chennai Corporation are some of the main schemes that are being successfully implemented by the Government.

For the first time in the history of Transport Department, steps are being taken to operate 80 zero emission electrically operated buses in Chennai City, 20 buses in Coimbatore City in co-operation with the C-40 Agency in England to reduce environmental pollution.

For the use of commuters, 471 new buses, costing Rs.126.80 crore, have been put into operation. The break up is as follows: 60 buses for the Government Express Transport Corporation (Chennai), 103 buses for the Villupuram Transport Corporation, 77 buses for the Salem Transport Corporation, 43 buses for the Coimbatore Transport Corporation, 111 buses for the Kumbakonam Transport Corporation, 30 buses for the Madurai Transport Corporation, 46 buses for the Tirunelveli Transport Corporation and one bus for the Metro Transport Corporation.

Out of 60 buses allotted for the Express Transport Corporation, 38 buses are deluxe buses, 8 buses are ultra deluxe buses with toilet facilities and 10 are A/C sleeper coaches and 4 are A/C Deluxe buses with seating facility.

As a token, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.Edappadi K.Palaniswami flagged off 7 new buses for the use of public from the Secretariat on 10.10.2018.

More hostels, classrooms, labs for Adi Dravidar students

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.Edappadi K.Palaniswami, declared open through video conferencing from the Secretariat on 10.10.2018, a hostel building for Adi Dravidar Welfare School students, constructed at a cost of Rs.1.11 crore. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also inaugurated on the occasion, 9 hostel buildings for the boys and girls of Adi Dravidar Welfare Schools and Colleges and additional class buildings and science laboratories for 7 Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Schools, all constructed at a cost Rs.14.55 crore.

To prevent drop outs from Adi Dravidar and Tribal students and help them to attain higher status in the society through education, the Tamil Nadu Government, treading the path of Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, has been offering free education, noon-meal, bi-cycles at no cost, education implements at no cost, free uniforms, education incentives, and hostel accommodation to the SC and ST Students.

As a part of it, the Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru.Edappadi K.Palaniswami, declared open the hostel building built at a cost of Rs.1.11 crore for Adi Dravidar Welfare School students at Athur in Salem District. The building has been built with ground and first floor, on a 5,230 sq.ft. site and rooms for students, dining hall, kitchen, bath rooms, toilets, solar power and drinking water.

For students of Adi Dravida School and College, Six hostel buildings, were constructed at a cost of Rs.6.81 crore at Niravi

in Ramanathapuram District, Maramadakki and Keeranur in Pudukkottai District, Semakottai in Cuddalore District, Kalluranikkadu in Thanjavur District and Sivagangai in Sivagangai District; 3 hostel buildings for Adi Dravida School Students, constructed at a cost of Rs.3.42 crore in Polambakkam in Kancheeepuram District, Kallakkottai in Pudukottai District and Elavanasurakottai in Villupuram District;

Additional Class buildings and Science laboratories constructed at a cost of Rs. 4.32 crore at Vethiyarvettu Government Adi Dravidar Welfare Higher Secondary School in Ariyalur District, Abishekakattalai Government Adi Dravidar Welfare Higher Secondary School, Tiruvarur District, Thaiyur and Meenambakkam Government Adi Dravidar Welfare Higher Secondary Schools and Anakaputhur Government Adi Dravidar Welfare Higher Secondary School in Kancheepuram District; Pagadupattu Residential Tribal Welfare High School and Sikkanampatti Government Adi Dravidar Welfare Higher Secondary School in Salem District.

Totally 10 hostel buildings, additional classrooms and science laboratories for students of Adi Dravidar and Tribal Schools and Colleges constructed at a cost of Rs.15.66 crore were declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru.Edappadi K. Palaniswami.

Birth anniversary of Sir C.V.Raman - November 07

A genius devoted to science

Chandrashekara Venkata Raman was the first Indian to win the Nobel Prize in Physics. Raman's interest in science covered varied areas including physiology, meteorology and astronomy. Raman established two excellent institutions for study and research on physics, the Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore in 1934 and the Raman Research Institute in 1948.

Raman always believed in traversing the boundaries through sheer excellence. He never compromised on quality. He was also very fond of art and music. Though he was a simple man, many of his critics found him to be an egoist. But those who have worked with him closely say that in private conversations he was full of humility. He was an emotional man who could cry publicly too. Overall, he was a genius who was completely devoted to science.

-Indian Nobel Laureates by Arun Anand

Celebrate Deepavali in a grand manner without accidents, pollution

Deepavali festival is celebrated all over India in a grand manner, bursting fire crackers by way of reminding ourselves of the victory of Good over Evil and of our culture and traditions.

A Public Interest Litigation was filed in the Supreme Court, seeking a ban on the production and sale of fire crackers. The Tamil Nadu Government impleaded itself as a respondent in this case to protect the interests of more than two lakh workers engaged directly and indirectly in fire cracker factories and our culture. In its order dated 23.10.2018, the Supreme Court laid the conditions that the ingredients that go into the production of fire crackers should be environment friendly and that only 'green' fire crackers should be produced and sold in future. It is further stated that sufficient awareness should be created about the air pollution caused by the bursting of fire crackers and advised State Governments to stress on the bursting of fire crackers in open space. The Supreme Court fixed only two hours – between 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. – on the day of Deepavali for bursting of crackers.

The Supreme Court rejected the Tamil Nadu Government's plea for an additional time of 2 hours for bursting of fire crackers but permitted the state government to fix the court sanctioned two hours according to its convenience.

As per the directive of the Supreme Court, the Tamil Nadu Government is permitting the bursting of fire crackers between 6 a.m. to 7 a.m. and between 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Deepavali day.

In all Municipal Corporations in the State, the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board will measure the quality of the air for 7 day before Deepavali and 7 days after it for 14 days totally.

It is the duty of everyone to safeguard a pollution-free environment. Keeping this in mind, people should observe the following for celebrating a safe Deepavali:

• They should burst fire crackers of low noise and pollution potential

• People can take efforts through welfare associations in their respective areas for bursting fire crackers collectively in open spaces with the prior permission of local bodies.

Things to be avoided:

• Serial 'sara vedis' emitting loud noise

• Bursting of crackers in hospitals, places of worship and in peaceful places.

• Lighting fire crackers in slum areas and places where fire can easily break out.

Let us celebrate Deepavali grandly but in an accident and pollution-free manner.

Hearty Deepavali Good Wishes to All.

Drive against dengue, mosquitoes; people's co-operation sought

Nilavembu water is distributed to school students in all Government Hospitals and Primary Health Centres in the State. Steps are being taken to distribute Nilavembu Water to College students also.

Members of the public are requested to approach Government Hospitals immediately when they have symptoms of fever and not to take any medicine without doctor's prescription. Medical shops are directed by the Directorate of Medical Control not to give medicines to patients without proper prescription.

In every District, a Rapid Response Team has been formed at Revenue Divisional level and if it is found that in any place there are more than three persons suffering from fever, the team immediately attends to them to find out the reason for the fever and eradicate it. People are requested to remove old tyres, plastic cups and broken coconut shells and keep the environment clean and co-operate with the Government in preventing breeding of mosquitoes.

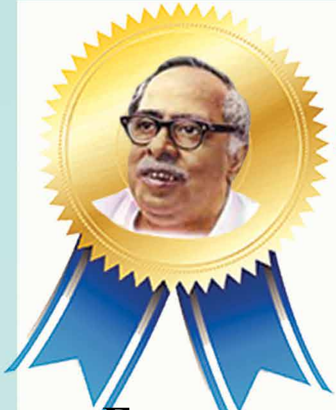
The Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board in co-ordination with various Government Departments has engaged in eradication of mosquitoes in slum areas. The co-operation of people is sought in the eradication programme.

A consultative meeting was conducted at the headquarters of the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board under the Chairmanship of the Board's Managing Director M.S.Shanmugham I.A.S. The meeting discussed various steps for eradication of mosquitoes and adoption of health related measures in 134 blocks of the Slum Clearance Board.

The meeting, attended by Chennai Corporation Commissioner (in-charge) Tmt.R.Lalitha I.A.S., and officials of the Chennai Metrowater and Sewerage Board and Family Welfare Department, directed the officials to remove the garbage collected in dustbins in various areas at regular intervals, periodically drain stagnant water from the sewerage and rain water drainage pipes and conduct health camps at regular intervals for the benefit of local people.

Health-related campaigns should be conducted by distributing bit notices throughout the areas through auto-rickshaws, meeting people in person, giving them proper advice and conducting practical demonstrations to create awareness. With the help of the Corporation's propaganda van, films on health related issues and on eradication of mosquitoes should be screened to create awareness among people. All these works should begin from October 25.

As a part of the implementation of health schemes throughout the State, the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board, in co-ordination with the Chennai Greater Corporation, Chennai Metrowater and Sewerage Board is to organize an intense mosquito eradication programme and create awareness about Dengue fever in all the 134 board areas. A press release issued by the Slum Clearance Board appeals to the public to co-operate in this matter.



Applications invited for Anna Award for acts of bravery

Every year on Republic Day, Anna Awards for acts of bravery are distributed by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. The award consists of a cheque for Rs.1 lakh, a Medal and a Citation. Applicants who belong to Tamil Nadu and have performed commendable and courageous acts are eligible for the Award. The Award will be given to 3 persons from the general public and to 3 Government Employees.

To select candidates for the Bravery Award 2019, applicants should submit their applications along with documents supporting their courageous and heroic acts to the Principal Secretary, Public Department, Secretariat, Chennai - 600 009 through their respective District Collectors before 15.12.2018.

Applications received after the due date will be summarily rejected. A selection committee, to be constituted by the Government , will select the candidate for the Award. The award winners will be honoured and presented with the Award by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on Republic Day, 26.01.2019.